Dimension W

YUJI IWAHARA

THAT SOUNDS FUN.

IT'S OUR SUMMER HOMEWORK. WE GOTTA OBSERVE ANYTHIN' WE CHOOSE FER AT LEAST FIVE DAYS, AN' THEN WRITE UP A REPORT 'BOUT WHAT WE LEARNED.

FUN? GIMME A BREAK.

FILE.32
MIRA'S JOURNAL

AN OBSERVATION JOURNAL?

BUGS I SAW TODAY

- YELLOW WINGS
- BLACK SPOTS
- "PALE CLOUDED YELLOW" BUTTERF

UH-HUH!

SEVEN-SPOT

WE HAVETA WRITE IT ALL BY HAND! IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY !!

HEY, MIRACCHI, HOW 'BOUT IT?

Y'WANNA DO A JOURNAL TOO?

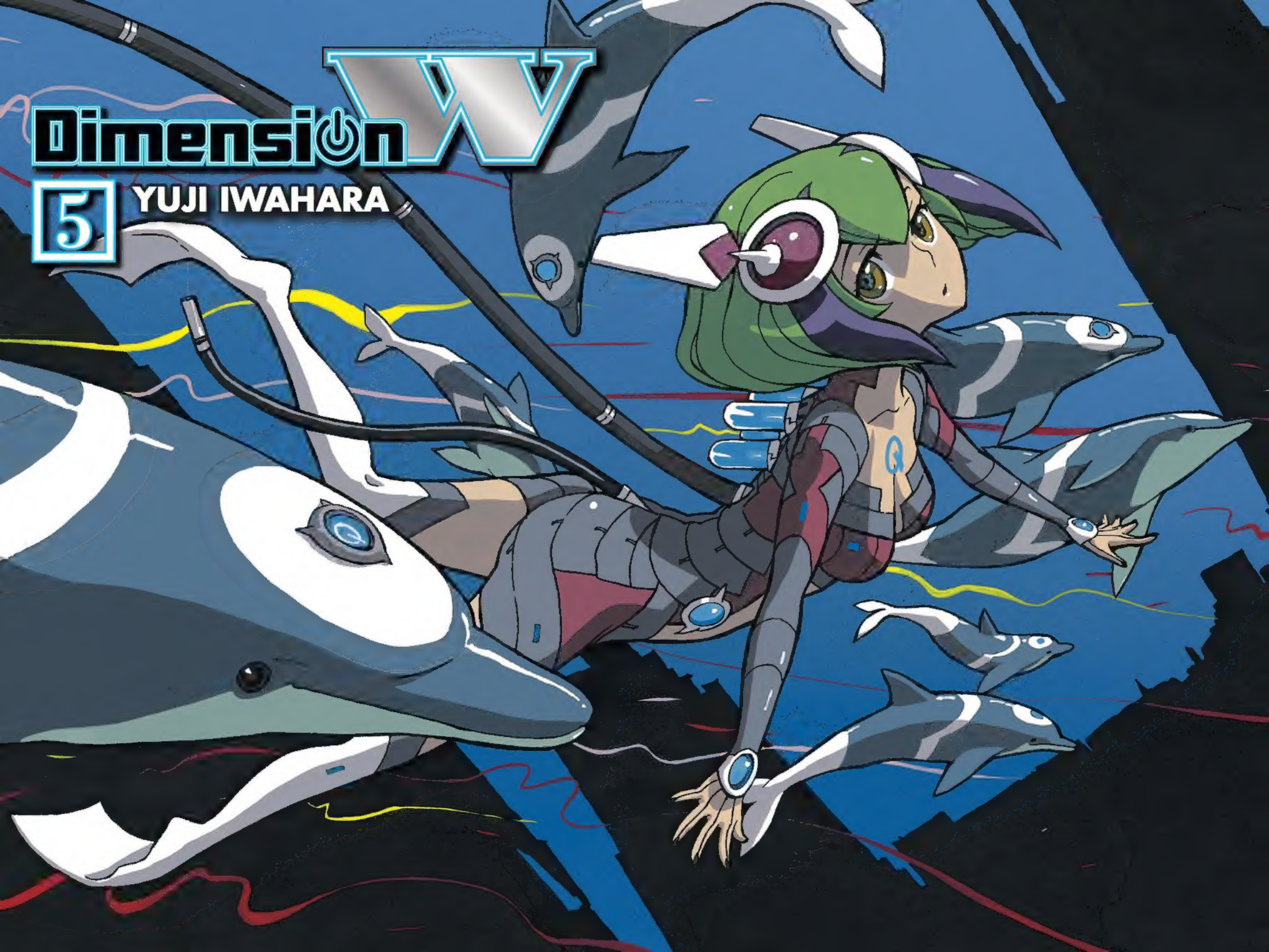
M..... ME?

SURE! WE CAN SHOW 'EM TO ONE ANOTHER WHEN WE'RE ALL DONE!

Dimension W

5

YUJI IWAHARA



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3-D MODEL DESIGN: TOSHIKAZU SENBA

JIJIRI
(BZZ)
JII
JIIJIJI
RIRI
HMMM.....
THIS IS NO FUN.
JIJIIIRIRI
IS THERE ANY POINT IN ME JOURNALING THIS.....?
IN MY CASE, ALL I'M DOING IS COPYING DATA DOWN EXACTLY AS IT IS IN MY MEMORY BANKS.
JIJIJI
JIII
I
THIS IS A COPY, NOT ART.....
LARGE BROWN CICADA
GRAPTOPSALTRIA NIGROFUSCA
HEMIPTERA ("TRUE BUGS")
LENGTH: 2.28 IN NOISE LEVEL

GAN

GAN (BAM)

I NEED A TOPIC I DON'T HAVE DATA ON. SOMETHING I'M REALLY CURIOUS ABOUT...

(BZZ)

JII

I'M SUPPOSED TO BE OBSERVING SOMETHING NEW! I CAN'T WRITE ABOUT SOMETHING I'D JUST KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT, LIKE INSECTS.

BUT THIS GENERATOR FINALLY BROKE DOWN ON ME FOR GOOD...

I USED EVERY TRICK IN THE BOOK TO KEEP THIS WORK-ING.

DAMN IT!

HEY. ROBOT!

I'M GOING TO THE RETRO ELEC-TRONICS SHOP IN SHADOW TOWN.

KEEP AN EYE ON THE PLACE.

OKAY, I WILL.

GAN

WHY'D IT HAVETA HAPPEN IN THIS HEAT? I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT AIR CON-DITIONING AND A FRIDGE!

I'VE FOUND IT.

MY OBSER-VATION SUB-JECT.

GOOD LUCK!

.....
WHAT'S IT SCRIBBLING ...?

MR. KYOUMA MABUCHI OBSERVATION JOURNAL, DAY 1

KAKI

KAKI (SCRIB)

THIS IS A REALLY OLD MODEL.

...MR. KYOUMA HATES COILS.

FIRST OF ALL...

...DAMN OLD MAN RIPPED ME OFF.

60

ZUN (THUD)

ズンッ

AUTO SERVICE

HE RELIES ON GASOLINE TO POWER HIS OWN GENERATOR. ALL OF THE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES IN HIS HOME ARE CONNECTED TO "ELECTRICAL OUTLETS." YOU HARDLY EVER SEE THOSE ANYMORE.

TOO TRUE.

GASOLINE

THEY'RE ALL ANTIQUES NOW.

YEAH, WELL, COILS MADE GENERATORS OBSOLETE.

HIS WORK REVOLVES AROUND COILS. WHY DOES HE GO THIS FAR TO AVOID USING THEM?

BAN (SLAM)

NOW SHE'S PERFECT.

BUT HE EVEN HAS SOME COIL-CAPABLE APPLIANCES THAT HE MODIFIED SO THEY COULD BE POWERED VIA OUTLETS INSTEAD.

MOST OF HIS APPLIANCES WERE MANU-FACTURED BEFORE COILS BECAME A HOUSEHOLD ITEM.

PI

START, YOU PIECE OF JUNK!

OI.

...HUH?

DOKA (WHUMP)

PI (BEEP)

...NOW I CAN FINALLY COOL OFF.

IT'S A MYSTERY TO ME.

MR. KYOUMA'S WAY OF LIFE IS EXTREMELY INEFFICIENT. IT'S INCOMPREHENSIBLE.

KAKI

KAKI (SCRIB)

DAMN IT!

NOW THE A/C'S CRAPPING OUT?

DAY 2

THIS WAY, HE CAN MINIMIZE HIS TIME SPENT INTERACTING WITH COILS—AND PEOPLE—AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

HIS REASON FOR THIS IS SIMPLE.

TAKEOUT IS THE BASIC STAPLE OF MR. KYOUMA'S DIET.

I PROPOSED THAT I HANDLE THESE CHORES AS MY WAY OF PAYING RENT FOR LIVING ON HIS PROPERTY.

I ALSO TIDY HIS ROOM AND DO HIS LAUN-DRY.

I'M GOING IN!

I CLEAN UP THE MESS WHEN MR. KYOUMA ISN'T HOME.

EATING TAKEOUT THREE TIMES A DAY ADDS UP TO A LOT OF GARBAGE.

IS MR. KYOUMA UN-AWARE OF THAT FACT?

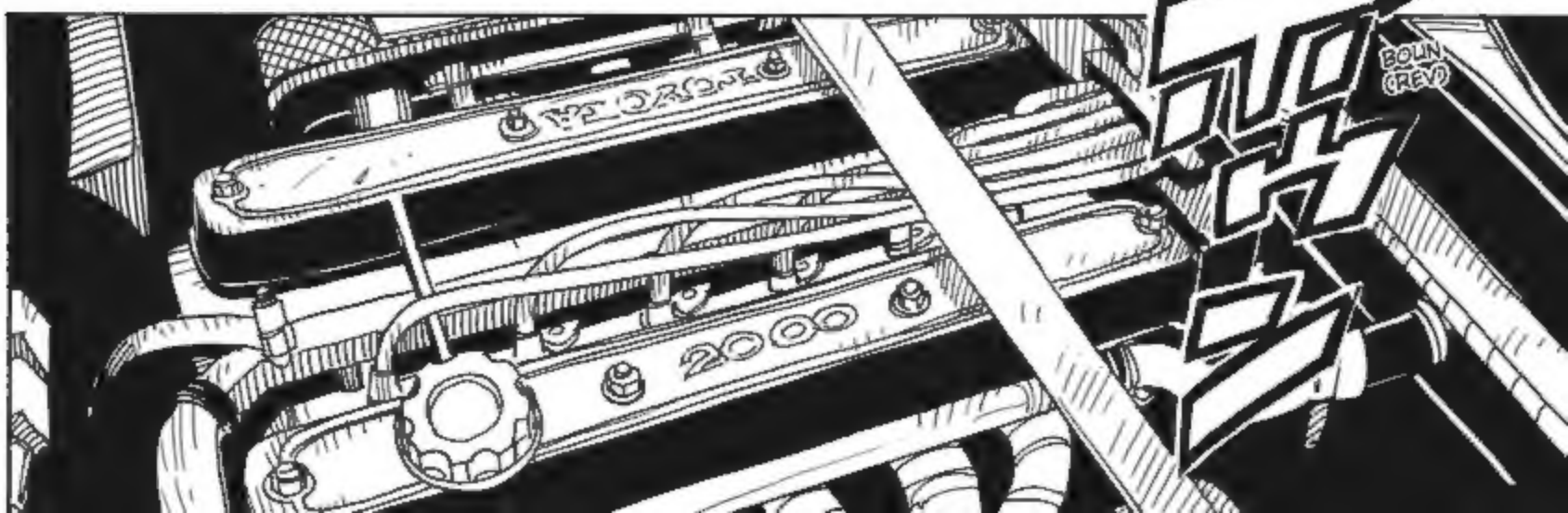
ACTUALLY, THE MAJORITY OF TAKEOUT MEALS ARE PREPARED BY ROBOTS.

...HE SHOT DOWN THAT IDEA IMMEDI-ATELY.

YOU THINK I COULD EAT FOOD MADE BY A ROBOT?

I ALSO PROPOSED COOKING FOR HIM, BUT.....

DAY 3



MR. KYOUMA USUALLY SPENDS HIS DAYS OFF WORKING ON HIS CARS.

.....

BUOOO (VROO)

BO

BO

BO (PUTTER)

AFTER THE INCIDENT WITH THE KIDS*, HE HAD TO GET RID OF ALL OF THE VEHICLES, EXCEPT FOR THE ONES IN THE GARAGE.

WHEN I FIRST CAME HERE, THERE WERE SEVERAL JUNK CARS WAITING TO BE SERVICED.

*WHEN SUZUKIYAMA RIGGED A PILE OF JUNK CARS TO FALL, AND THE KIDS WERE ALMOST HURT (SEE VOLUME 2)

UNFORTU-NATELY, IT SEEMS AS THOUGH IT'S IN NEED OF SOME PARTS.

WELL, THERE'S ALSO A CAR ON TOP OF THE LIFT.

...AND A SMALL TRUCK.

THE ONLY REMAINING VEHICLES ARE THE CAR WE ALWAYS TAKE, MY TRAILER...

PULL (HUMPH)

WAIT A SEC.

WHO SAID YOU COULD COME IN HERE?

SHOO.

OH, PLEASE. A LITTLE PEEK CAN'T HURT, CAN IT?

...MR. KYOUMA, THE AUTOMOBILES YOU OWN ARE ALL PRICELESS, AREN'T THEY?

HUH?

YEAH. WHAT'S IT TO YOU?

NOT TO MENTION THAT THE MODIFICATIONS YOU'VE MADE COULD DECREASE ITS MARKET VALUE...

WHY DO YOU HAVE TO DRIVE SOMETHING SO EXPENSIVE? ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU HAVE TO PUT SO MUCH WORK INTO IT...

THERE ARE MUCH CHEAPER, BETTER CARS OUT THERE WITH THE SAME PERFOR-MANCE.

FUU (SIGH)

... BECAUSE YOU'RE A ROBOT.

I JUST DON'T SEE WHY YOU NEED TO DO ALL THAT TO DRIVE IT...

AND YOU REINFORCED THE BODY QUITE A BIT TOO.

I SEE YOU'VE REBUILT ALMOST EVERY PART OF THE ENGINE AND THE TRANSMISSION, OTHER THAN THE BLOCK...

OUT.

EEK!

DON CKICK

I COULD TOO UNDERSTAND, IF I STUDIED IT!

WELL, I AIN'T GONNA TEACH YOU.

BO

BO

BO

YOU COULD DO YOUR COMPUTATIONS OR WHATEVER FOR A HUNDRED YEARS AND YOU STILL WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS, IT HAS A MAXIMUM HORSEPOWER OF 194 KW/7,313 RPM AND A MAXIMUM TORQUE OF 211 NM/5,120 RPM. I DON'T SEE ANY MERIT IN HAVING ONE, UNLESS ONE'S GOAL IS TO DISOBEY SPEED LIMITS.

MR. KYOUMA'S LOGIC REALLY IS A MYSTERY.

.....

WELL, HUMPH TO YOU.

DAY 4

PI (BEEP)

PI

BAN (BAM)
BAN
MUKU (RISE)
ん？
？
AUTO REPAIR
SYSTEM CHECK
96%
PI (BEEP)
PI
GET YOUR TAIL IN GEAR. WE'RE HITTIN' THE ROAD.
WE GOT AN URGENT GIG FROM MARY.
GACHA (KACHAK)
DID YOU NEED SOMETHING, MR. KYOU-MA?
He broke through police barricades, and is currently moving west.
The target hit a number of jewelry stores.

BASED ON THE SMASH-AND-GRAB M.O., WITNESS STATEMENTS, AND THE SECURITY FEEDS...

...HE HAS TO BE CHAMBERMAN. A WANTED ROBBER FROM RUSSIA'S CENTRAL 3.

BOBOBO (PUFFER)

WHO'S OUR GUY, MARY?

JIRIRIRIRI (BZZ)

ARRR

I shouldn't have to tell you that he uses an illegal Coil.

He's a dangerous man. Thirty-five percent cyborg.

They say he can pulverize anything into dust.

SHU

PUSHUUU (PSSH)

ZUZUZUZU

The illegal Coil powers his punches by compressing air to the extreme.

WAAAA (CLAMOR)

.....

BO (BOOM)

GU (CLENCH)

Be careful not to let him add you to that list.

DON'T LET THE COPS OR OUR COMPETITION BEAT YOU TO THE PUNCH, KYOUMA.

THE INSURANCE COMPANY SAYS THEY'LL ADD A LITTLE BONUS TO THE PAYMENT FOR THIS JOB.

I HEAR YA.

Don't ask me.

...HOW'D A WANTED MAN WHO STANDS OUT LIKE A SORE THUMB EVEN GET INSIDE CENTRAL 47?

PIN DON (BING-BONG)

The train will be arriving at platform three shortly ...

47 NISHI STATION

BOAAAA (SCREECH)

DOGO (BROK)

UIN (WHIRR)

ZA (ZSH)

UIN

ZA

.....

TCH!

PUNCHED MY WAY THROUGH THE WRONG PLACE.

TATA (TMP)

TATATA

DOESN'T CHANGE THE PLAN. I'LL HITCH A RIDE ON THE EXPRESS TRAIN AS IT PASSES BY.....

AH WELL.

ZASHu (CLINK)

ZASHU

UUAAA (AHH)

I'VE SECURED THE TARGET!

NGH!

GA (GWOOSH)

THAT WAY, I WON'T HAVE TO REMOVE YOUR ARM!

GU (GRIP)

PLEASE STAY STILL WHILE I REMOVE YOUR ILLEGAL COIL.

.....

GUH!

GO (CRACK)

SHAKI (SHUK)

THIS WILL BE OVER SOON.

HUH?

WAH!

GUI (LIFT)

HE'S ...

GET AWAY FROM HIM, IDIOT!

HEY!

BUN (FLING)

DOGO (KER-CRACK)

DOSA (WHUMP)

TA (HOP)

PUA (HONK)

GOOOO (ROAR)

YOU'RE COLLEC-TORS?

MILITARY COILS TRUMP REGULAR COILS, AND ILLEGAL COILS TRUMP MILITARY COILS. DON'T FORGET YOUR COLLECTOR ABC'S!

YOU'RE DRAWING POWER FROM A REGULAR COIL NOW!

GOOOO
ゴゼゼゼ
TCH!
AN EXPRESS TRAIN...?
GOOOO
ゴ"ゼゼゼゼ
!
GOTTA SMASH IT BEFORE I GO.
...BUT IT'LL BE A PAIN IF THIS ANDROID SEES WHICH ONE I TAKE.
WHEN BOTH TRAINS PASS THROUGH THIS PLATFORM, I'LL DISAPPEAR INTO THIN AIR.
ERROR 01
THAT'S THE PLAN.
AND NOW THERE'S ONE ON THE OPPOSITE TRACK TOO.
PLAN...
(HONK)
GOOOO
ゴゼゼゼ
AUTO REPAIR
RESTART
63%
E01
(BEEP)
PI
I CAN'T MOVE!

THERE'S A 99% CHANCE I'LL BE DESTROYED.

PUSHUU (PSHH)

GYUIN (WHRR)

THE OTHER 1% IS...

MR. KYOUMA!

KA (THAK)

!!?

CHI (CHINK)

GIN (CRING)

PAAN (BANG)

A NICK IN MY TITANIUM HOSE .....!?

AUTO REPAIR

76%

GUAH ...!

...!!

THAT PULSE TRIGGERED THE TRAINS' EMERGENCY BRAKES.

KII...

47

GIKII (SKREE)

...!!

THAT WORKED EVEN BETTER THAN I EXPECTED.

MY ESCAPE PLAN .....!

AND YOU'RE THE PERFECT GUINEA PIG TO TRY 'EM OUT ON.

CHA CCLINK

SAY HELLO TO VERSION TWO OF MY SKEWERS.

THEY'RE TWICE AS HARD AND SHARP AS THE OLD ONES.

RU (F.W.P)

GIVE UP. YOU'RE OUT-CLASSED.

AUTO REPAIR 100% COMPLETE

GRAAARGH!

.....

IS IT EVEN POSSIBLE TO AIM THAT WAY?

THEN IT RICOCHETED AND HIT THE TARGET'S HOSE DIRECTLY.

FIRST, THE SKEWER HIT A METAL PIPE.

BECAUSE HE HAS THE POWER TO TURN A "ZERO" INTO A "ONE."

KASHU (CLICK)

DON'T MIND IF I DO.

I DECIDED TO REVISE IT TO 99% BECAUSE MR. KYOUMA WAS HERE.

TCH. THIS BIG OF AN UPGRADE AND THEY STILL CAN'T PIERCE STEEL PLATING?

..... ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS, UNDER THAT SET OF CIRCUMSTANCES ... ...THE PROBABILITY THAT MY HEAD WOULD BE BROKEN OPEN WAS ACTUALLY 100%.

IT WASN'T BECAUSE MY CALCULATIONS TOLD ME IT WAS THE MOST EFFICIENT SOLUTION.

THE REASON I CALLED HIS NAME IN THE FACE OF DANGER ...

IT WAS BECAUSE I BELIEVED IN THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE WOULD TURN MY "ZERO" INTO A "ONE."

IF YOU CAN MOVE, IT'S TIME TO GET OUTTA HERE.

.....HEY, ROBOT. QUIT SPACIN' OUT.

AH...I'M COMING!

WATCHING HIM MAKES ME THINK VERY DEEPLY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES THAT HUMANS CARRY WITH THEM.

MR. KYOUMA IS SUCH A MYSTERY. HE ALWAYS FALLS OUTSIDE OF MY CALCULATIONS.

FOR BETTER OR WORSE.

...POSSIBILITY IS SOMETHING THAT IS ALWAYS WITHIN YOU...

...MIRA.

STUDY THE HUMAN MIND.

YOU WILL FIND ANSWERS...

...WITHIN IT.

.....

THERE.

NEXT WILL BE DAY FIVE.

THE FINAL DAY OF THE JOURNAL.

MR. CHAMBERMAN'S ESCAPE PLAN WAS TO SWITCH TO ORDINARY-LOOKING BODY PARTS THAT WERE PLACED ON THE TRAIN, AND BLEND IN WITH THE GENERAL POPULACE. HE MUST HAVE HAD AN ACCOMPLICE

NOTEBOOKS HAVE SUCH A LIMITED CAPACITY.

OHH, WHAT TO WRITE?

DAY 5

"DAY 5"
.....

TODAY WE GOT OUR-SELVES A LITTLE ESPIO-NAGE.

SUTA (TAMP)

YES, MR. KYOUMA?

JUST A MO-MENT!

HEY! BUCKET OF BOLTS!

PARA

PARA

PARA (FLIP)

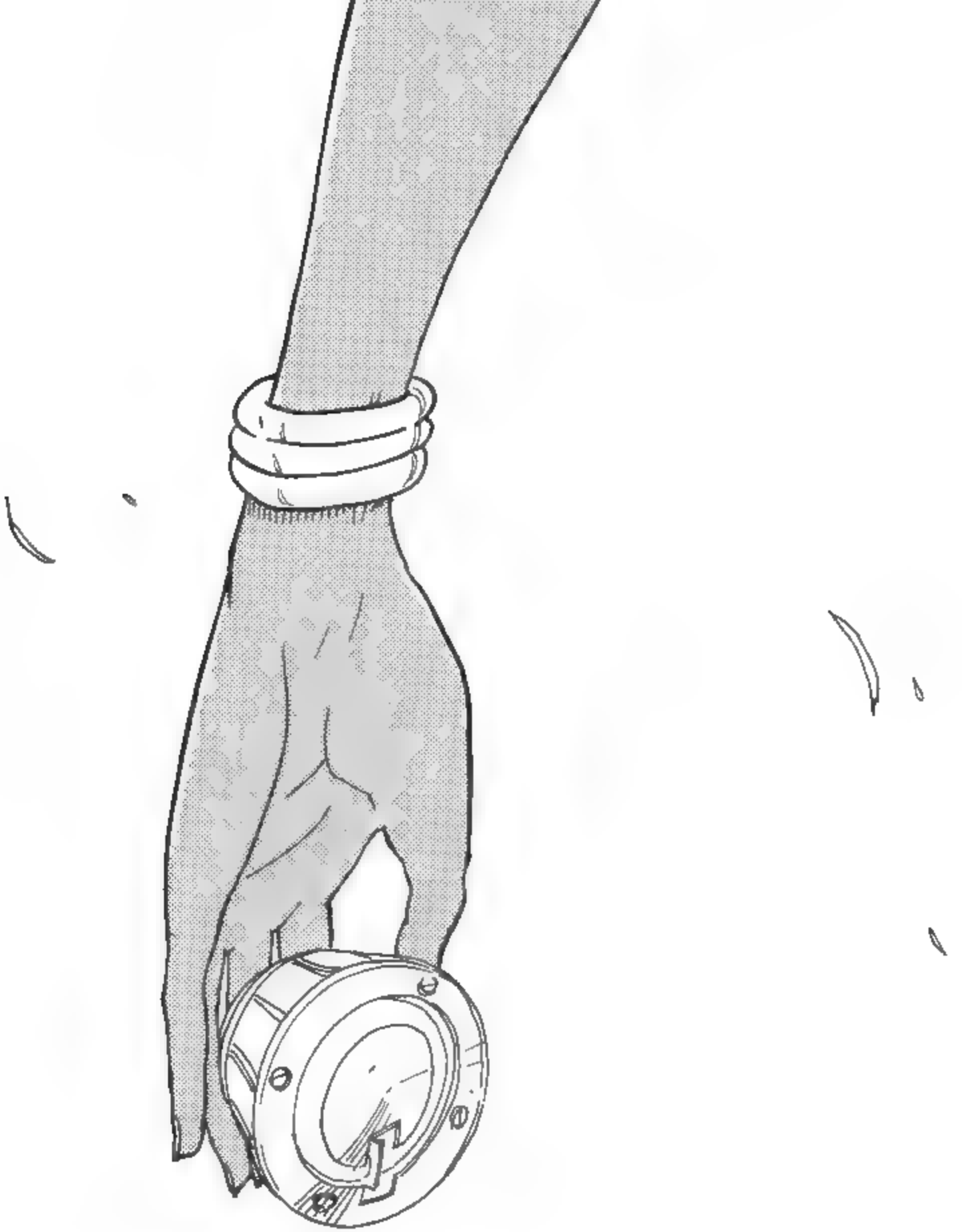
MY JOURNAL MAY END HERE, BUT I HAVE AN INKLING THAT MY OBSERVATIONS OF MR. KYOUMA WILL CONTINUE FOR QUITE SOME TIME.

I CAUGHT WIND OF A RUMOR ABOUT A GROUP THAT ***MIGHT*** BE TRADING ILLEGAL COILS.

QUIT YAPPIN' AND GET IN THE CAR.

YEAH, THEY ***MIGHT*** BE.

"MIGHT" ?



FILE.33
THE WIND OF AFRICA

SHINKAZUSANO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

SHINKAZUSANO

ISLE

There he is now, folks, exiting his extra-large private airliner...

...to give us a dashing greeting!

Standing before us is the president of Islero, the world's #1 robot-maker...

...the protector of the sixtieth Tower and C.O.O. of Central 60...

...also known as "the wind of Africa," all at only twenty-three years old, Prince Salva Enna Tibesti himself!

HEH HEH.

His popularity puts even Hollywood stars to shame!

There's his fan-favorite smile...

PRINCE SALVA!

EEEEK!

EEEK!

HOLD ME!

The prince is now waving back to his fans on the special observation deck.

But rumor has it that's not the only reason for his visit to Japan. There is serious speculation that he may also be in search of a bride.

...he's to dine with fellow C.O.O. Claire Skyhart in Central 47.....

Prince Salva's schedule for the day? After a meeting with the Prime Minister ...

...PRINCE SALVA.

I TRUST YOU HAD A PLEASANT FLIGHT...

BATAN ISLAND

WHAT NON-SENSE.

HMPH.

HOW SHALL WE RE-SPOND ?

ALSO, REGARDING THE REQUEST FOR A MEETING FROM THE PRESIDENT OF YACHIKA HEAVY INDUSTRIES ...

THE PRIME MINISTER IS ALREADY EN ROUTE TO THE RESTAURANT.

LASITHI.

HOW UGLY.

.....

DECLINE.

UNDER-STOOD, YOUR HIGHNESS.

WHY ARE WOMEN FROM LOW UPBRINGINGS SO UNSIGHTLY?

PARDON?

WOULDN'T YOU AGREE, LASITHI?

.....

WORTHLESS SOPHISTRY. IT CAUSES BEAUTY TO ROT.

FREE-DOM? HA!

SLAVES COVERED IN ASH AND DIRT WOULD BE MORE BEAUTIFUL.

THEIR BELLIES SHAME-LESSLY EXPOSED.

GAPING SMILES WITH NO SENSE OF DECO-RUM.

"BIND."

HMPH.

...IT IS NOT MY PLACE TO SPEAK OF BEAUTY...

BIKU (TWITCH)

ビクッ

!.....

BIKUKU

ビクッ!!

IS IT ENOUGH TO STIR MY HEART? NO.

STILL, YOUR BEAUTY IS BETTER THAN NOTHING.

...THANK YOU, PRINCE SALVA.

...IF ONE WORD FROM ME IS ENOUGH TO BIND YOUR FREEDOM.

YOU DO HAVE SOME BEAUTY IN YOU...

PRINCE LWAI WAS READY TO ATTEND THE ENGAGEMENT WITH C.O.O. SKYHART ALONGSIDE YOUR HIGHNESS...

THIS DOESN'T BODE WELL.

THE BODYGUARDS STATIONED AT THE HOTEL IN CENTRAL 47 JUST REPORTED IN.

"03"

PIPI (BEEP)

!

WHAT NOW?

...I SEE.

UNDERSTOOD. I'LL INFORM HIM.

HE'LL BE IN TROUBLE WHEN HE RETURNS.

...BUT HE'S DISAP-PEARED, THEY SAID.

47 TOWER

HELLO, NIPPON!

MARY'S

WHO'S THIS SHRIMP !?

STAY OUT OF OUR FIGHT—

GUH!

AAARGH!

BUN (TOSS)

ZURU (DRAG)

ズルズル

WOOO!

SWEET!

IS THAT AN ANDROID ?

PACHI

PACHI (CLAP)

パチ パチ

THAT'S MS. MARY'S BODY-GUARD FOR YA!

THE BOUNCERS CAN TAKE IT FROM HERE.

YOU CAN GO ON BACK NOW!

THANKS, FOUR! GOSH, YOU'RE A LIFE-SAVER.

I SWEAR, IT'S LIKE HE'S UN-BEATABLE!

YEAH, HE EVEN TAKES OUT MILITARY MEN PACKING GUNS, AND SCARY CYBORGS TOO.

FOUR SURE IS STRONG. ESPECIALLY FOR HIS SIZE!

(BEEP)

HMPH.

ANY PROGRESS ?

HNN?

HOW ARE THINGS HERE, KOOROGI?

ｳｨｰﾝ (VRR)

ｳｨｰﾝ

WELL, I'M TRYIN', I CAN TELL YOU THAT MUCH...

...BUT I'VE REACHED THE LIMIT OF WHAT I CAN DO WITH OUR EQUIPMENT.

WHAT YOU WANNA KNOW IS WHAT SHE WAS MADE FOR—

DR. SHIDOU YURIZAKI'S PLANS FOR HER, RIGHT?

FOR THE BODY, AT LEAST, IT'S NO MYSTERY.

HIS WIFE, DR. SEIRA, CREATED IT AS THE ULTIMATE ARTIFICIAL BODY FOR MEDICAL APPLICATIONS.

IF YOU REALLY WANTED TO, YOU COULD TRANSPLANT ANY PART OF IT TO A HUMAN BODY.

Replacing more than 60% of the human body with artificial parts is forbidden under international law...

No matter what one's wealth, a full body transplant would be impossible, correct?

...and it's never been done successfully before.

BUT UNLESS THEY'RE SOMEBODY WHO'S PRETTY LOADED, WELL, SUCKS TO BE THEM... *NYEH-HEH.*

...YOU'D JUST HAVETA REWRITE THE SUBJECT'S DNA A LITTLE.

THE NANO-MACHINES FROM THE ARTIFICIAL BODY WOULD *ADAPT* TO THE NEW HUMAN BODY.

I-I'm sorry.

BET IT DIDN'T EVEN REGISTER TO YOU AS HACKING NEITHER.

NYEH HEH.

JUST HELPING YOURSELF AND OUT-PUTTING YOUR VOICE? THAT'S SO YOU.

Yes, it's me.

...IS THAT YOU, MIRA?

I can't move during the scans, so I'm using the room's speakers...

NOW, WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT MIRA'S IS THE INCREDIBLY ORGANIC AND EFFICIENT BRAIN.

HE'S HEAVIER, BUT THAT'S 'COS HE WAS BUILT FOR COMBAT.

FRANKLY, FOUR'S BODY IS NEWER AND MORE POWERFUL.

ANYWAY, AS I WAS SAYING, THE TECHNOLOGY USED TO BUILD THIS BODY IS ALL STUFF THAT'S ALREADY BEEN MADE PUBLIC.

THIS TIME, I RAN SOME DEEP SCANS TO MAP OUT THE BRAIN'S ARCHITEC-TURE.

THE SPACE BETWEEN THE SOLID ARCHITECTURE OF THE BRAIN NUCLEI IS FILLED WITH A NONCONDUCTIVE COOLANT.

NANOMACHINES HOLDING HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF QUANTUM BITS INTERLACE WITH ONE ANOTHER INTRICATELY...

...FORMING STRUCTURES SIMILAR TO CIRCUITS.

.....THESE BRAIN PATHWAYS ARE SELF-EVOLVING.

NOBODY MAPPED IT OUT—IT DEVELOPED AND GREW ORGANICALLY OVER TIME.

IT'S ONE OF A KIND, AND CAN'T BE DUPLICAT-ED.

IT'S BASICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDER-STAND COMPLETELY.

MAYBE DR. SHIDOU COULD, SINCE HE WATCHED ITS EVOLUTION IN PROGRESS, BUT FOR ANYBODY ELSE...

JUST FINDING OUT THE MEANING BEHIND EACH CIRCUIT WOULD TAKE YEARS UPON YEARS.

SO YOU'RE SAYING YOU GIVE UP?

YUP. THAT'S IT FOR ME.

.....

"FOLLOW THE ILLEGAL COILS" IS TOO VAGUE.

IF WE AT LEAST KNEW HIS GOAL, WE'D BE ABLE TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH HER...

HMPH. IT IS WHAT IT IS.

DIGGING UP THE DOC'S INTENTIONS AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN.

...NEVER MIND. YOU CAN COME DOWN NOW.

THAT LEAVES NOTHING BUT HEADACHES FOR US, BUT...

DR. SHIDOU LIKELY DESIGNED YOU SO THAT YOU COULDN'T.

I'm sorry.

If I at least understood my own mind...

IT'S IRRITAT-ING.

AN ANDROID SHOULDN'T BE MAKING SUCH A TROUBLED LOOK.

PUSHU (PSSHU)

UIII (WHIRR)

SA (SWISH)

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY I WAS BORN.

...IS MYSELF...

...IN THE END, THE ONE THING I UNDERSTAND THE LEAST...

NOT UNLESS YOU'RE A TOOL.

THERE ISN'T ANY RHYME OR REASON TO IT.

LUIN GWEEN

THAT'S NORMAL.

JUST THINK. YOU'D HAVE ALL YOUR ANSWERS IF HE'D ORDERED YOU TO FIND AND KILL THE SCARRED MAN WHO MURDERED HIS WIFE AND KID!

TOO BAD.

NYEH HEH.

THAT'S ALL IT MEANS.

AND RIGHT NOW, YOU AREN'T A TOOL.

RIGHT, RIGHT.

NYEH HEH!

I HAD YOU LOOK INTO THIS PRECISELY SO WE WOULDN'T END UP IN THAT TERRITORY!

DON'T EVEN JOKE ABOUT THAT, KOOROGI!

"THE SCARRED MAN" .....

NYEH HEH.

THAT'S ENOUGH, YOU BRAT.

YUP, AND IF YOU TRIED TO MURDER SOMEBODY WITH A LEGAL COIL, THE COIL WOULD DETECT IT AND SEND ALL YOUR INFO TO NEW TESLA IN AN INSTANT.

KILL.

I TOLD HIM TO COME DOWN HERE TOO.

BY THE WAY, WHERE'S KYOUMA?

BUNBUN (SHAKE)

YES, SIR!

CAN ANYONE EXPLAIN THE MECHANISM BEHIND THIS?

WHEN COILS ARE USED FOR CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, THEY AUTO-MATICALLY SHUT DOWN.

AHH... NEXT...

...THE MISUSED COIL CAN BE PINPOINTED AND SHUT DOWN REMOTELY.

Hmm ...

SAY THE COIL BEING USED FOR CRIMINAL ACTIVITY COULDN'T DETECT THAT FACT ITSELF. IF EVEN ONE OF THE COILS IN ITS VICINITY HAPPENS TO DETECT THE ILLEGAL ACTIVITY...

Shoop!

COR-RECT.

SO, THE MANNER IN WHICH COILS ARE USED IS CONSTANTLY MONITORED, INCLUDING ANY POSSIBLE CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES.

EVERY TOWER AND EVERY COIL ARE CONNECTED THROUGH DIMENSION W.

Ta, ta, ta, ta, ta!

ANY QUESTIONS?

?

BECAUSE DIMENSION W IS INTANGIBLE AND INDEED A DIMENSION, PHYSICAL DISTANCE DOES NOT APPLY TO IT, OR EVEN EXIST WITHIN IT. NO MATTER HOW FAR AWAY WE ARE ON EARTH, IT ONLY TAKES AN INSTANT TO—

—LOSSLESS TRANSMISSIONS AND LOCAL ENERGY NETWORKS ARE ALSO APPLICATIONS OF DIMENSION W TECHNOLOGY.

HMPH...

THIS IS NOT...

...MY NIPPON AT ALL!

IT IS JUST LIKE ISLA, BACK IN AFRICA ...

THIS PLACE IS NO DIFFERENT FROM MY HOME COUNTRY...

GESHI (STOMP)

GASHA

SALVA, YOU LIAR!

LIAR!

DARN IT!

PESHI (WHAP)

FORGET IT. I'LL GO BACK ...

GUSUN (SNIFFLE)

IT'S A SAMURAI!

IT'S...

A REAL LIVE SAMURAI!

GASHU (CLANK)

WHOA!

HUH?

HIS MOTOR-CYCLE JUST—
HUNH?
IT JUST TRANS-FORMED INTO A ROBOT .....!!!
GUOO (VRUM)
ゲゲゲ

HE'S ...

AH ...!

KIRAN (GLINT)

8 ISLERO

OUT OF THE WAY...

...MÖN-KEY!!

HAANH?

FILE.34
KYOUMA'S MELANCHOLY

LOOK OUT!

RUN, SAMURAI!

ISLERO

GYUN (VREEN)

I SAID MOVE IT!

DARN IT...!

KIIN
(CRING)

HUH...!?

TON
(TAP)

GASHA
(CRASH)

OW, OW, OW, OW, OW! M-MY LEG...

IT'S PINNED ...!

ZUSHI (CREAK) ズシ

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RELY ON TOY ROBOTS.

HEY! GET OFF OF THERE!

SHUKIN (SHINK) シキ

S'ONLY PERFECT WHEN ALL THE PARTS ARE FUNC-TIONING PERFECTLY.

IDIOT.

THE ISLERO AUTO-BALANCER SYSTEM IS SUP-POSED TO WORK PERFECT-LY.....

HOW WERE YOU ABLE TO TOPPLE ME?

CHARA (CLINK) チャ

NEXT TIME YOU'RE ITCHING FOR A FIGHT, PICK YOUR OPPONENT WISELY, BALDY.

AND THREE OF THEM AT ONCE!!

HE STOPPED IT BY JAMMING SKEWERS BETWEEN THE MOVING PARTS!?

ARE THOSE ..... SKEW-ERS!?

IN A SINGLE INSTANT, HE **IDENTIFIED** THREE VULNERABILITIES IN THE DESIGN!

BUT HE DID IT IN THREE PLACES!

THEY'RE DESIGNED TO HAVE NO PENETRABLE CRACKS.

ISLERO ROBOTS CAN'T BE TOPPLED BY JAMMING THINGS IN THEM HAPHAZARDLY.

IT'S JUST AS I THOUGHT!! JAPANESE SAMURAI ARE INCREDIBLE!!

INCREDIBLE!!

フォーン FUOON (VROOM)

TRYING TO SABOTAGE OUR DIPLOMATIC VISIT!?

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU!?

HUNH?

IF THEY CAN ATTACK PEOPLE WITHOUT A MOMENT'S HESITATION...

...THEN THEY'VE GOTTA BE USING MILITARY COILS.

GASHU (CLANK)

KI— (SKREE)

AND THOSE BIKES OF THEIRS...

TCH!

HE'S GOT FRIENDS, HUH?

WHO ARE THESE FOOLS?

...AT!!?

GUN (YANK)

WHADDAYA WANT, YA BR...

HUH?

THIS WAY!

OO (VROOO)

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME!?

HEY!

WE'LL GO AROUND AND CUT HIM OFF!

KUH...

THAT ALLEY'S TOO SMALL FOR THE BIKES ...

A... FOOT-PRINT?

IS THAT A...

THEN WHAT'S THIS?

THIS HAT...IS IT THAT KID'S?

...WHAT?

YOU LOST LWAI?

YES, SIR.

THERE WAS AN UNEXPECTED OBSTACLE .....

.....SO, THEN, WHAT YOU ARE TELLING ME IS THIS.

I HAVE AN UNPLANNED-FOR ENEMY IN THE CITY IN WHICH I AM TO STAY...

...AND YOU ALLOWED HIM TO SLIP THROUGH YOUR FINGERS .....

AN UNEX-PECTED OBSTA-CLE?

A TALL MAN...WE BELIEVE HE WAS JAPANESE.

N... NO, MY PRINCE! HE .....!

AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL FAMILY'S BODY-GUARDS?

ME-THINKS ...

... SOME-ONE NEEDS TO BE PUN-ISHED.

P... PLEASE, SIR, I BEG YOU...

BIBIBI (BZRRKT)

YEEAARGH!

HMPH.

PACHI (CRACKLE)

DO (THUD)

THOSE WHO LACK ABILITY HAVE NO PLACE HERE.

BATA (WHUMP)

YOU WILL FIND LWAI BY THE TIME IT IS OVER.

I WILL HAVE TO DINE WITH MADAM SKYHART ALONE.

IT'S TOO LATE NOW.

WHAT DO YOU WISH TO DO, PRINCE SALVA?

...BUT HE IS STILL A NECESSARY PAWN TO CHANGE THE WORLD.

HE MAY BE A MERE DECORATION ...

...LWAI.

YOU CAN'T RUN FROM ME...

AS YOU WISH.

WHEW.

HUFF!

HUFF!

HUFF!

Eheh heh heh!

WE SHOULD BE SAFE HERE...

...MR. SAMURAI!

WAH!

"SAFE"? YOU'RE KILLIN' ME HERE, KID.

BA (SNATCH)

I DIDN'T NEED TO RUN IN THE FIRST PLACE.

HELL...

IT WAS YOU THEY WERE AFTER, WASN'T IT?

WHA!?

HOW COULD YOU TELL!?

.....THAT'S JUST GREAT...

BIRI (GRIP)

AWW!

I AIN'T NO SAMU-RAI!

SAMURAI ARE SO INCREDI-BLE!

INCREDI-BLE!

'COS YOU'VE GOT THE SAME SKIN TONE AS THEM. NOT TO MENTION THAT GETUP.

ANY IDIOT COULD TELL.

TCH!

FORGET THIS.....

?

FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD, HOW MANY HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO IS THE JAPAN IN YOUR HEAD FROM?

A NINJA? AN EDO POLICE-MAN?

WHAT ARE YOU, THEN?

...YOU WOULD ABANDON ME WHEN I'M BEING PURSUED?

IT AIN'T NONE OF MY BUSI-NESS!

THIS SURE WAS A WASTE OF TIME.

HUH ?

YOU'RE LEAVING ?

IF YOU WANNA KNOW MY NAME, YOU'D BETTER TELL ME YOURS FIRST.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

THEN ...

THEN AT LEAST TELL ME YOUR NAME!

CALL ME "LOO"!

.....THE NAME'S KYOUMA MABUCHI.

LWAI AURA TIBESTI.

MY NAME IS LWAI.

TAKE ME WITH YOU!

DON'T YOU'LL GRAB RIP IT AT ME! AGAIN.

WAIT, KYOU-MA!

AAH!

GOOD LUCK AND SO LONG, LOO.

WHY SHOULD I!?

WILL YOU TAKE ME TO THOSE PLACES ?

THEN TAKE YOUR HIDE TO KYOTO OR NARA. NOTHIN' TO SEE IN A COIL-RIDDLED CITY LIKE THIS.

I HAVE TO EXPERIENCE MORE OF NIPPON BEFORE I CAN RETURN.

I SAID DON'T FOLLOW ME!

TATATA (PATTER)

.....

NOW STOP FOLLOW-ING ME!

47 City Hotel

KYOUMA! ♪

YOU ROTTEN BRAT...

GACHA (KACHAK)

ガチャ

IT'S BEEN SOME TIME, PRINCE.

PLEASE, CALL ME SALVA...

...MADAM CLAIRE.

I HAD IT PREPARED JUST FOR TODAY.

A SEVENTY-TWO-YEAR-OLD VINTAGE?

THIS GEM WAS BOTTLED IN THE YEAR 2000 IN THE WESTERN CALENDAR TO COMMEMORATE THE TURN OF THE MILLENNIUM.

GRAND VIN CHATEAU LA... 2000

CHÂTEAU LATOUR "MILLENNIUM."

PERISH THE THOUGHT! I WOULD NEVER.

... PRINCE SALVA.

I'M NOT QUITE THAT OLD, YOU KNOW...

A JAB AT MY AGE?

BEAUTY IS "KNOWLEDGE" AND "DISCIPLINE."

...THAT I BELIEVE YOU TO BE ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMEN IN THE WORLD, MADAM CLAIRE.

IT IS NOT EMPTY FLATTERY WHEN I SAY...

WITHOUT KNOWL-EDGE, ONE CANNOT UNDER-STAND BEAUTY.

WITHOUT DISCIPLINE, ONE CANNOT FOSTER KNOWLEDGE.

AND YOU UNDERSTAND THAT WELL.

THE WORLD IS BEAUTIFUL BECAUSE THERE IS ORDER.

...YOU DID NOT COME HERE TODAY JUST TO FLATTER ME, NOW DID YOU?

.....BUT...

I'M HONORED, PRINCE.

THAT IS WHY YOUR BEAUTY OUTSHINES ALL OTHERS.

NOTHING GETS PAST YOU.

HMM, HMM, HMM.

WHY ARE YOU REALLY HERE?

FOR TWO CENTRAL C.O.O.S TO MEET OUTSIDE OF A "COUNCIL OF SIXTY MEETING" IS UNUSUAL, TO SAY THE LEAST...

...CONCERNS THE LONG-MISSING GENIUS...

MY TRUE PURPOSE HERE...

...VERY WELL. I SHALL TELL YOU THE REAL REASON WHY I'VE VISITED YOUR CENTRAL 47 IN PERSON.

...AND HIS FINAL LEGACY.

...DR. SHIDOU YURIZAKI...

夏まつり

夏まつり

DON

ドン

KA (CLACK)

カッ

KA

カッ

夏

AH HA HA!

SIGNS: SUMMER FESTIVAL / GRILLED RICE BALLS

KYOUMA! KYOUMA! WHAT IS ALL OF THIS?

IT'S JUST A FESTIVAL.

...LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING ELSE HAS FINALLY DISTRACTED HIM.

I CAN FINALLY BE FREE OF HIM NOW.

ALREADY GAVE HIM SOME CHANGE TO SPEND...

Yippee!

CAN'T BELIEVE I ENDED UP BABYSITTING THIS KID ALL THE WAY HERE.....

SIGN: CHOCOLATE BANANAS

KYOUMA!

GOLD-FISH-SCOOPING OVER HERE!

WANT TO GIVE IT A TRY?

...THANKS!

HERE. FIRST ONE'S FREE.

KYOUMA?

AND...

...THIS COAT IS WOVEN WITH STEEL...

WHAT A HANDFUL.

HIS STATURE'S ABOUT THE SAME AS THE ROBOT'S TOO.....

...JUST A COINCI-DENCE?

.....MEH.

IT'S GOT NADA TO DO WITH ME.

GOT IT!

...AND IF YOU SCOOP ONE UP, YOU PUT IT IN THAT THERE BOWL.

SIMPLE, RIGHT?

GETTIN' INVOLVED WILL BRING ME NOTHIN' BUT TROUBLE.

PAKU (GLUB)

PAKU

I HAVE TO WIN ONE QUICKLY SO I CAN CATCH UP TO KYOUMA.

DOPAAN (KERSPLOOSH)

BITA (SPLACK)

BITA

BITA

KYAAA (SHRIEK)

WHAT THE...!?

SIGN: TAIYAKI

C'MON, BRAT!

GU CYANK

WAH!

PLEASE, SELL THESE...

WHAT ?

I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY!

FOR ALL THE GOLDFISH, AND THE BOOTH SPACE RENTAL!

YOU'RE GONNA PAY UP FOR THIS!

KYOUMA!

WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE WHAT THOSE ARE WORTH.

SHAD-DAP!

THIS JUNK WON'T COVER IT!

HEY! GET BACK HERE!

HERE I GO PICKING UP TROUBLE. AGAIN.

...GOD-DAMN IT.

FILE.35
LIGHTS ON THE RIVER

SIGNS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM. AZUMAYA KIMONOS / AZUMAYA / KIMONOS

OH!

MR. KYOUMA!

WELCOME!

MY, IT'S WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU!

DON (SHOVED IN)

WE'RE COMIN' IN.

GET IN THERE.

WAAH!

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT? SNOW IN SUMMER?

KYOUMA, BRINGING ALONG A COMPANION? I MUST BE SEEING THINGS.

MY, WHAT HAVE WE HERE?

WHO'S THIS BOY?

AN EXOTIC DARK-SKINNED BOY...

HE'S SOAKING WET!

HRUMPH.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO ROUGH, KYOUMA!

COME WITH US, LOO!

I'M LOO... ME?

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

YES, MA'AM!

MISS HIROSE. MISS AYUKA-WA.

PREPARE A DRY CHANGE OF CLOTHES FOR HIM IN THE BACK.

WE SURE DO! WANT TO TRY ONE ON?

DO YOU HAVE SAMURAI CLOTHES TOO!?

AWE-SOME!

WHAT KIND OF STORE IS THIS?

IT'S CALLED "AZUMAYA." WE SELL JAPANESE KIMONOS.

A TRA-DITIONAL CLOTHING STORE.

I HELPED THE KID OUT WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING IT, AND HE'S BEEN FOLLOWING ME LIKE A PUPPY EVER SINCE.

LOOK, IT'S JUST HOW THE COOKIE CRUMBLED.

OH DEAR.

KYOUMA! WAIT RIGHT THERE, OKAY?

WILL YOU QUIT TALKING SMACK ALL NONCHALANTLY?

WHERE DID YOU KIDNAP THIS ONE FROM?

GOODNESS, WHAT A CHARMING BOY.

OH YEAH... THIS.

YOUR SLEEVE IS TORN...

HMM?

SHADDAP.

YES, *CHILDREN* HAVE ALWAYS BEEN QUITE FOND OF YOU.

... TSUBAKI.

THANKS FOR ALWAYS DEALING WITH MY CRAP...

THIS IS ALL I CAN DO FOR YOU.

GOT INTO TROUBLE AGAIN, DID YOU?

I'LL MEND IT FOR YOU.

LET'S TAKE THAT OFF.

HERE.
YOUR NEW HAPPI.
YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW.
YOUR ORDERS ARE SO UNREASONABLE THAT YOU'D BE HARD-PRESSED TO FIND ANOTHER STORE WILLING AND CAPABLE OF FULFILLING THEM.
A HAPPI COAT MADE OF FABRIC WOVEN WITH STEEL FIBERS, SPECIAL OBI SASHES, AND SO ON...
BE-SIDES...
SHUPIN (SHWING)
SHA (SHAK)
SHUBA (WHOOSH)
IT'S STILL QUITE HEAVY, BUT I ALTERED THE LINING TO MAKE IT EASIER TO MOVE IN, AND MORE BREATHABLE.
...HMM.
HOW DOES IT FEEL?
WITH STURDY SYNTHETIC SPIDER SILK MATERIAL AND THREAD .....

THIS IS WELL-MADE.

FEELS MUCH LIGHTER THAN ITS ACTUAL WEIGHT.

SU (SWIP)

OH? THANK GOOD-NESS.

I CAN MOVE FREE AS A BIRD WITH THIS.

THEN I'LL BE EXTRA CAREFUL NOT TO DIE, WHEN I'M WEARING THIS.

DON'T YOU EVER TAKE IT OFF.

DON'T SAY THAT.

IT WAS WORTH ALL THE EXTRA EFFORT.

I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SLEEP AT NIGHT IF YOU DIED BECAUSE OF CLOTHING I MADE FOR YOU.

YOU AREN'T ALLOWED TO DIE BEFORE I DO.

EVEN AFTER EVERYTHING, I'M YOUR BIG SISTER-IN-LAW.

LISTEN... KYOUMA?

.....

I DON'T CARE. YOU STILL AREN'T ALLOWED.

WE'RE THE SAME AGE, AREN'T WE?

...YEAH.

THAT IS WHY YOU CAME HERE, ISN'T IT?

HAVE YOU GONE TO VISIT HER YET?

IT'S OBON TODAY .....

.....

ISN'T IT TIME YOU FORGAVE YOURSELF?

IT'S BEEN MORE THAN FOUR YEARS .....

... LIAR.

YOU ALWAYS TURN BACK BEFORE MAKING IT TO HER GRAVE.

YOU DON'T EVEN BRING FLOW-ERS.

I KNOW YOU DO.

KYOUMA!

THIS ISN'T RIGHT, IS IT?

I DON'T LOOK LIKE A SAMURAI, DO I!?

THE CONCEPT IS A CROSS-DRESSING SWORDSMAN, LIKE SHINO INUZUKA FROM THE EPIC *HAKKENDEN!*

HE WAS JUST SO CUTE, YOU KNOW?

IT'S ALL WRONG, ISN'T IT?

THE HECK ARE YOU TWO PLAYIN' AT?

JUST LOOK AT HIM. IT'S OBVIOUS HE'S RICH!

BILL THE KID FOR IT!

WHAT?

SHALL I ADD THAT TO YOUR TAB?

.....BY THE WAY, KYOU-MA...

MISS HIROSE. MISS AYUKA-WA.

YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER. ALWAYS DRESS OUR CUSTOMERS IN WHAT THEY ASK FOR.

YES, MA'AM!

THANK YOU, KYOUMA! I LOVE YOU!

HEY!

TOO TRUE!

.....WELL, BUT IT WAS YOU WHO ESCORTED HIM HERE, AND HE'S CLEARLY A MINOR...

ZA (WHOOSH)

DON'T CLING TO ME! YOU'LL RIP THIS ONE TOO!

!

!

WELCOME...

.....W...

LASITHI!

SU (SWIP)

.....

THIS LADY...

I SEE THAT I MADE A HASTY ASSUMPTION.

SHE'S GOT AN AWFUL LOT OF COMBAT EXPERI-ENCE...

I BELIEVED THAT MASTER LWAI WAS BEING ATTACKED.

I APOLOGIZE FOR ENTERING YOUR ESTAB-LISHMENT IN THIS WAY.

CAN'T I STAY A LITTLE LONGER, LASITHI? JUST A LITTLE BIT?

WE MUST RETURN, MASTER LWAI.

MASTER SALVA IS WAITING FOR YOU.

NO, THANK YOU.

...MAY WE OFFER YOU A CUP OF TEA?

WHAT IS THAT NOISE?

TUDOO CHUMO

NO.

MY INSTRUCTIONS ARE TO RETRIEVE YOU BY FORCE IF I MUST.

ZUN (WHUD)

IFLERO

BIRI

BIRI

BIRI (BZZ)

BIRI

WE SHOULD NOT...

...BOTHER THESE KIND PEOPLE ANY LONGER.

.....

四 Bar 屋

KIK.I キキィッ

KI (SKREE) キッ

SIGN: AZUMAYA

IT'S TIME FOR KIDS TO GO HOME.

KYOU-MA.....

!

GO ON, LOO.

I'M DONE INDULGING YOUR WHIMS TOO.

SAYO-NARA.

DON'T YOU LOOK AT ME WITH THOSE ABAN-DONED PUPPY DOG EYES...

...OKAY. I KNOW...

PI (BEEP)

PLEASE SEND THE BILL HERE.

OH! THANK YOU.

GOOD-BYE.

YES, MASTER LWAI.

.....LET'S GO, LASITHI.

SO, HE'S RELATED TO SALVA ENNA TIBESTI, THE C.O.O. OF CENTRAL 60...?

LWAI AURA TIBESTI. I THOUGHT I'D HEARD THE KID'S NAME BEFORE...

THE AFRICAN PRINCE WHO'S VISITING JAPAN OWNS THAT COMPANY ...!

.....

OH!

UMM... "ISLERO FINANCE DEPART-MENT"...

...NOW IT MAKES SENSE.

SU (SLIP)

スッ

...IS AN AFRICAN PRINCE TOO!?

WAIT, THEN THAT BOY...

BA
(WHAP)

HEY.
LOO!

HYU
(WHOOSH)

SHU
(SHWUSH)

A
PARTING
GIFT.

IT'S ALL
YOURS.

POSA
(PLOP)

KAKUN
(SWERVE)

HIRA
(FLUTTER)

HIRA

UH-HUH!

ADIOS.

Hmm, hmm, hmm!

阿屋

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN, KYOUMA!

SIGN. AZUMAYA

...

HRUMPH.

...DESPITE EVERYTHING YOU SAY, I THINK YOU HAVE A SOFT SPOT FOR CHILDREN, KYOUMA.

.....

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, LASITHI? COME ON!

...RIGHT AWAY.

...MM. YES.

AS LONG AS YOU'RE STILL ALIVE— NO MATTER WHAT FORM— THERE'S A CHANCE YOU'LL MEET AGAIN.

A CYBORG? OR A ROBOT...?

...BUT THEN AGAIN, IF HE'S RELATED TO "THE WIND OF AFRICA," GUESS IT COMES AS NO SURPRISE...

GOTTA WONDER ABOUT THAT CRAZY STRENGTH OF HIS...

BOSHU (SWOOSH)

...WELL, AT THIS POINT...

BATAN (SLAM)

GASHLIN (CLANK)

...IT'D MAKE NO DIFFERENCE TO MY LIFE ANYHOW...

VUOOO (HUM)

ISLERO

8

SHAKIN (SHINK)

PATAN (CLICK)

1197

SIGN: MIKAN HOUSE

I WONDER WHAT IT'S DOING OUT HERE?

WHOOO (WHRRR)

.....

THAT'S ONE OF THE ISLERO COMPANY'S MULTIPURPOSE WALKING ROBOTS.....

WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' HERE?

.....

WE WAITED AND WAITED BUT YOU NEVER CAME...

MS. MARY WAS VERY UPSET!

DO YOU REALLY HAVE TO ASK?

EXCUSE ME!

AH! WELCOME!

BUTSU (MUTTER)

BUTSU

IT WOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN SO LONG TO FIND YOU IF YOU'D AT LEAST KEEP YOUR DEVICE WITH YOU.....

I HAD MY OWN BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF.

...HOW'D YOU FIND ME ANYWAY?

I ASKED KOOROGI, AND HE TOLD ME SOME PLACES WHERE YOU MIGHT HAVE GONE.

...IT RAN OUTTA JUICE.

THIS IS WHY I TRY TO TELL YOU TO USE A COIL-POWERED PHONE .....!

OH MY.

WHAT A LOVELY YOUNG LADY, KYOUMA!

OH, IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU. MY NAME IS MIRA.

..... I SEE. MIRA...

.....NOW... KYOUMA...

I'M TSUBAKI AZUMAYA, THE PROPRIETRESS OF THIS KIMONO SHOP.

THE TWO BEHIND ME ARE ATSUKO HIROSE ON YOUR RIGHT, AND MANA AYUKAWA ON YOUR LEFT.

HELLO.

NICE TO MEET YOU, MISS MIRA!

...AREN'T YOU GOING TO TELL ME...

...EXACTLY WHAT YOUR RELATION-SHIP IS WITH THIS GIRL?

.....YEESH... NOW YOU SEE WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE YOU THERE.

WHY NOT? MISS TSUBAKI SEEMED CHARMING TO ME.

...SURE, IF SHE WEREN'T ON MY ASS ALL THE TIME.

SHE ALWAYS TREATS ME LIKE I'M SOME PUNK KID.

I'M SURE SHE JUST WORRIES ABOUT YOU.

DON'T TALK LIKE YOU'D KNOW—

OH! LOOK, MR. KYOUMA!

DOPAAA (POP)

HIP

PARA (FLICKER)

PARA

FIRE-WORKS...!

PAAAA (POP)

DON (BOOM)

DON

NEW TESLA ENERGY

DOPAAAN (BAM)

HIP

DID YOU ENJOY YOUR TASTE OF JAPAN...

KA CLACK

KA

KA

...LWAI?

SIGN: #1 IN JAPAN / EEL

YEAH.

A LOT.

...LET US SET IT OFF IN GRAND STYLE.

GOOD.

IN THAT CASE...

THE GREATEST FIREWORKS IN HISTORY ...

...ONCE MORE!

PACHIN (SNAP)

IPPE-

YOU CAN TOSS THEM OUT.

COME WITH ME, FOUR.

GIRI (GRIND)

GIRI

IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!

JUST WHO DO THEY THINK THEY ARE?

PINPOON DING-DONG

PINPOON

PINPOON

WHO ARE YOU!?

HOW DID YOU OPEN THE DOOR ...?

!?

GAPA (CLACK)

ガ

ガ...

ガ

GA (BASH)

ガ

GYA (CRACK)

ガ

メギツネ

by MEGITSUNE (SMASH)

Dimension
W

FILE.36
FATEFUL LAND

SOUTH POLE

THAT COIL'S STILL ACTIVE.

WHICH MEANS...

PI (BIP) GO GO PI

PI GO

STAY ON GUARD, DADDY.

THE REAC-TION'S REALLY CLOSE NOW.

...any dimensional rift it's caused will still be open too .....!

GISHI

GIGIGI (CREAK)

Above you, Daddy!

...THAT IS WHAT WE WANT. WERE IT NOT SO, OUR TRIP HERE WOULD BE MEANINGLESS.

I READ YOU LOUD AND CLEAR, ELLIE.

HOW-EVER...

ジキ (CREAK)
ギギ (STRAIN)
…!!!
ドルルル
!!
ガ (CLAMP)
キュウ

MULTIPLE LAYERS OF UNREALIZED POSSIBILITIES MERGING WITH REALITY...

...CAUSED THE SYSTEM TO CRACK AND GO OUT OF CONTROL, DID IT?

THE CARGO HOLD SECURITY SYSTEM.....

SEC-SY

KACHA (CLICK)

G (CREAK)

KACHA (CLACK)

JIKIKI (CHIRR)

VUON (VUM)

BEFORE THAT CAN HAPPEN...

...BUT IT MAY YET SWELL LARGER.

THE SCALE OF THIS DIMENSIONAL DAMAGE IS RELATIVELY SMALL.....

SHAAA (SHWRR)

Here they come, Daddy!

SUTA (TAMP)

GASHUA (GRASH)

GASHA

BOTA (CLATTER)

BOTA

GUSHA (CRUSH)

WE CAME ALL THIS WAY..

...AND IT'S JUST ANOTHER NORMAL OUT-OF-CONTROL COIL!?

GI (CRIK)

THIS IS NO NUMBERS COIL.

.....UNFORTUNATE.

ONE MORE NUMBERS, AND WE WILL BE READY...

ONE MORE...

.....IN ORDER TO OPEN THE GATE, WE REQUIRE FIVE KEY COILS IN TOTAL...

IT'S ALREADY GOING BACK!

.. LOOK AT THIS.

I EVEN DYED AND STRAIGHTENED MY HAIR TOO...

SIGH...

WE TOTALLY HAD THE CHANCE...

WE SHOULD HAVE DONE WHATEVER IT TOOK TO STEAL THE ONE BACK IN YASOGAMI. IF I'D KNOWN WE'D HAVE SUCH ROTTEN LUCK...

WE WOULD HAVE TAKEN THAT CHANCE, IF THOSE BEASTS HAD NOT BEEN THERE...

PUSHA (PSSH)

ZAAA (FSSH)

.....IT SEEMS THE HULL WAS COMPROMISED BY THAT EXPLOSION.

...SO MUCH SO THAT THEY BECAME LEGENDARY AFTER THE MOST RECENT WAR.....

YES. THEY WERE.

Was Grendel really that strong?

TA (TUP)

TA

TA

NO. IT WON'T WORK.

Does it really have to be a Numbers? Can't we modify an illegal Coil into a Key Coil?

...Hey, Daddy ?

TA (LEAP)

Roger.

I'LL MAKE A BEELINE FOR YOU.

Daddy! Listen to this!

WHAT IS IT, ELLIE?

NO GO, HUH...?

SOME-THING BIG JUST WENT DOWN THERE!

YOU KNOW CENTRAL 47, WHERE THOSE TWO LIVE?

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL, SERIOUS-LY...

47

FOUR WAS DESTROY-ED!?

WHAT !!?

MARY'S

CLOSE

OH NO...!

RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES.

...IN A SINGLE BLOW.

HE WAS BROKEN IN HALF...

THE INTRUDER EVEN REMOVED HIS COIL IN THE SAME MOVE.....

...THINK ABOUT IT. FOUR'S BODY AND COIL ARE BOTH MILITARY-GRADE.

WHAT WAS THE INTRUDER USING? AN ILLEGAL COIL?

"IMPRES-SIVE"!?

ARE YOU TRYING TO PISS ME OFF!?

THAT'S SOME IMPRESSIVE WORK.

...BUT HE LOST IN THE STRENGTH DEPARTMENT. YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS.

KOOROGI'S BEEN USING ALL THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY TO DRAW OUT AS MUCH PERFORMANCE FROM HIS MILITARY COIL AS POSSIBLE.

FOUR WASN'T MADE TO BE BROUGHT DOWN BY ANY OLD ILLEGAL COIL.

HUNTING ILLEGAL COILS IS OUR BREAD AND BUTTER.

...AND PERFORMANCE DEPENDS ON THE COILS' INDIVIDUAL SPECS.

THAT'S WHY CIRCUITS ARE CONNECTED WIRELESSLY...

TWO OR MORE, AND THEY'LL INTERFERE WITH ONE ANOTHER, CUTTING THEIR OUTPUT TO LESS THAN 1/100TH OF WHAT IT SHOULD BE.

YOU CAN ONLY USE ONE COIL PER CIRCUIT.

I DON'T CARE WHAT DAMN COIL THEY USED!

IF FOUR LOST WHEN IT COMES TO STRENGTH, THE ONLY EXPLANATION IS THAT THERE WAS A CATEGORICAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COILS.

THEY EXIST BECAUSE OF CONSTRAINTS LIKE THAT.

THE BILLION-YEN PRICE TAG ON THE NUMBERS...

THE ILLEGAL COIL PROBLEM...

.....UM, WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO FOUR?

I'LL MAKE THEM PAY!

THEY CAME INTO MY HOUSE AND BROKE MY PROPERTY!

THIS IS A BLOW TO HIS PRIDE. HE'S LIVID.

KOOROGI WAS CONFIDENT IN FOUR'S STRENGTH.

THANK GOODNESS...

SO HE'LL BE FIXED!

.....

KOOROGI'S WORKING ON HIM NOW.

...CHEEKY, CHEEKY...

CHEEKY, CHEEKY...

BUTSU (MUTTER)

BUTSU

BUTSU

SAFER TO KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FOR NOW.

KATA

KATA

KATA

KATA (TAK)

...SO, WHAT WERE THEY AFTER?

MONEY?

THEY WENT TO ALL THAT TROUBLE, BUT LEFT YOU WITHOUT A SCRATCH...DID THEY THREATEN YOU OR SOMETHING?

ANGEL

HERE. A CHALLENGE, ADDRESSED TO US.

SHU (WHIZ)

SCREEN CANDI-DATES ...?

PI (FWIP)

...NO. IT WAS TO ***SCREEN CANDIDATES***.

挑戦状

全ての回収屋へ

...TO ALL COLLECTORS...?

A CHALLENGE...

PASHI (CATCH)

.....

IT'S ALSO NOT A SECRET THAT CROSSING ME IS TANTAMOUNT TO SUICIDE.

FOUR'S STRENGTH IS NO SECRET IN OUR LINE OF WORK.

YEAH.

...BUT WHAT THEY REALLY MEAN IS ANYBODY WHO AIN'T SCARED SHITLESS AFTER THEY TOOK DOWN FOUR, HUH?

IT SAYS "ALL" ...

!

SU (SWIP)

LET'S TAKE A LOOK-SEE...

WHAT'S IT SAY INSIDE...?

THIS WAS A PERFOR-MANCE TO BRING OUT ONLY THE STRONG.

AT MY GODDAMN EXPENSE.

THOUGHT SO.

...WITH DARK SKIN.

FAR TOO YOUNG IN THE FACE, HEIGHT ABOUT THE SAME AS MIRA...

HAHN?

THIS INTRUDER THAT TOOK DOWN FOUR, AND LEFT THIS.

...WHAT'D THEY LOOK LIKE, MARY?

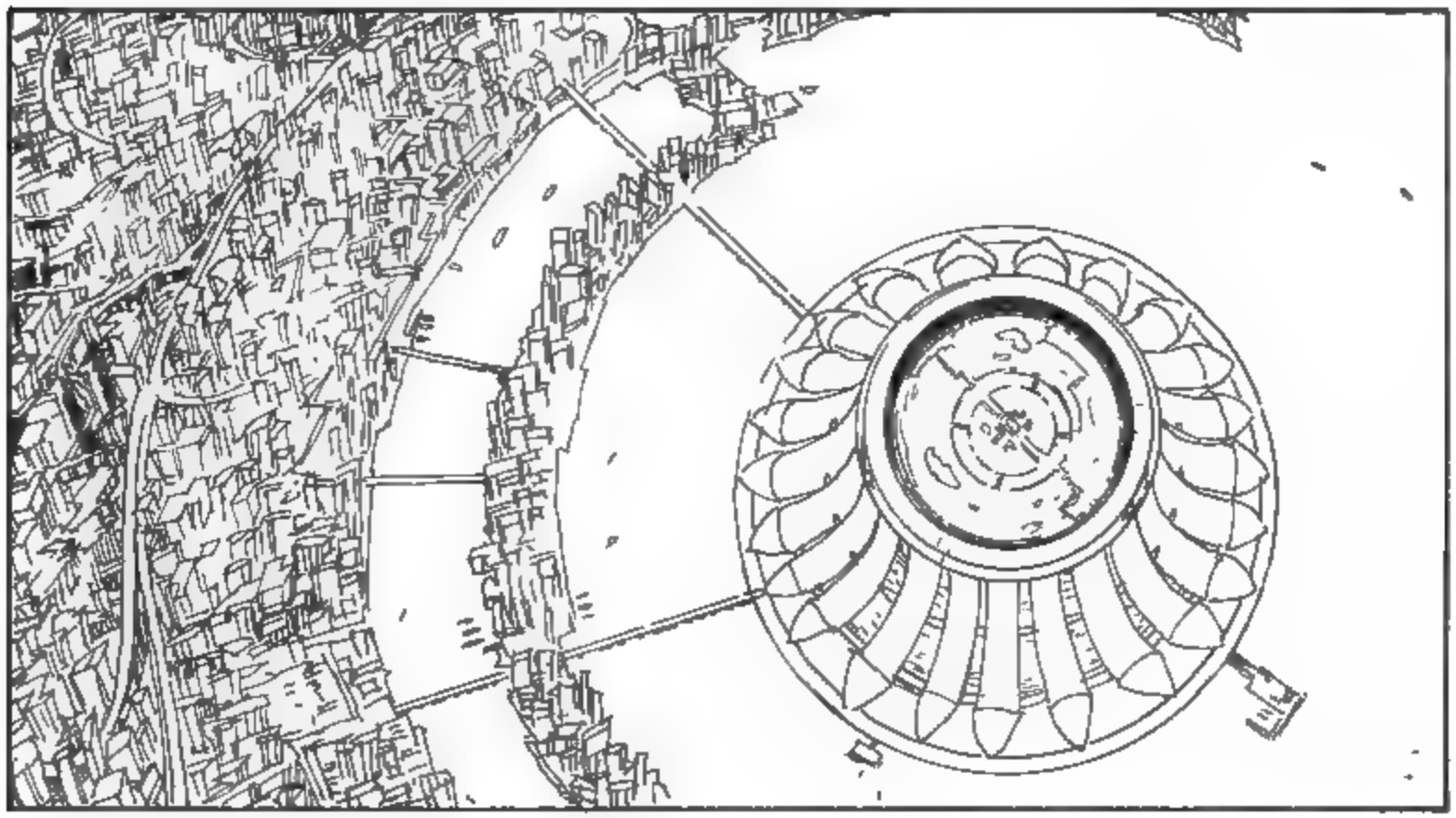
.....

8

ISLERO

DO YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHO IT WAS?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, KYOUMA?



GOOOO
(ROAR)
ゴオオオ

BLERO

.....

I AM ALWAYS SERIOUS.

BUT OF COURSE.

TELL ME, PRINCE SALVA.

.....ARE YOU QUITE SERIOUS?

...ACCORDING TO Q.I.'S REPORTS, THE DOCTOR DISAPPEARED ALONG WITH THE VERY MATTER SURROUNDING HIM.

...YES, THE BIT ABOUT "THE MATTER SURROUNDING HIM"—THAT'S WHAT HOOKS ME.

DR. SHIDOU YURIZAKI HAD BEEN MISSING FOR TWO YEARS, AND THIS WAS HIS FINAL CREATION.....

IT WOULD BE MAD TO DENY INTEREST IN IT.

AT THIS TIME, WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN WHETHER THE GOOD DOCTOR IS TRULY DEAD, OR STILL LIVES.

TO DISAPPEAR WITHOUT ANY EVIDENCE LEFT BEHIND...

...THOSE WHO WOULD NOT APPRECIATE YOU "ROCKING THE BOAT," AS IT WERE, HOLD EVEN GREATER POWER.

EVEN IF YOU ENJOY STAGGERING POPULARITY, AND HAVE A LOT OF PULL AMONG THE SIXTY C.O.O.S...

...THAT IS A DANGEROUS LINE OF THOUGHT, PRINCE.

THERE IS NOTHING MORE ATROCIOUS AND TERRIFYING THAN A GATHERING OF COWARDS.

HMM, HMM, HMM... YES...

.....THEY'RE QUITE THE COWARDLY BUNCH, AFTER ALL.

I'M SURE THEY'RE WATCHING THIS TALK OF OURS AT THIS VERY MOMENT.

IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, MADAM CLAIRE.

SU (SHUP)

I MUST PUSH FORWARD, BEFORE THE COWARDS PULL AHEAD OF ME.

GATA (SCRAPE)

.....NOW, THEN.

WHY, WAR IS MY FIELD OF EXPERTISE.

.....EVEN IF IT MEANS CERTAIN WAR?

...CONTROL CENTRAL AFRICA, THE LAND OF BLOODSHED...

...AS ITS "WIND" !!!

I, SALVA ENNA TIBESTI...

I DO NOT INTEND TO PLAY THE PART OF THE FOOL.

AH, BUT DO NOT BE ALARMED, DEAR MADAM CLAIRE.

I FEAR NOTHING...

...AND SERVE NO ONE.

A WAR TO AVOID WAR.

I HAVE PREPARED SOMETHING.

AND THE STAGE WILL BE...

I THOUGHT IT ONLY PRUDENT TO NOTIFY YOU BEFOREHAND.

...BECAUSE I WILL BE CREATING AN UPROAR HERE IN CENTRAL 74.

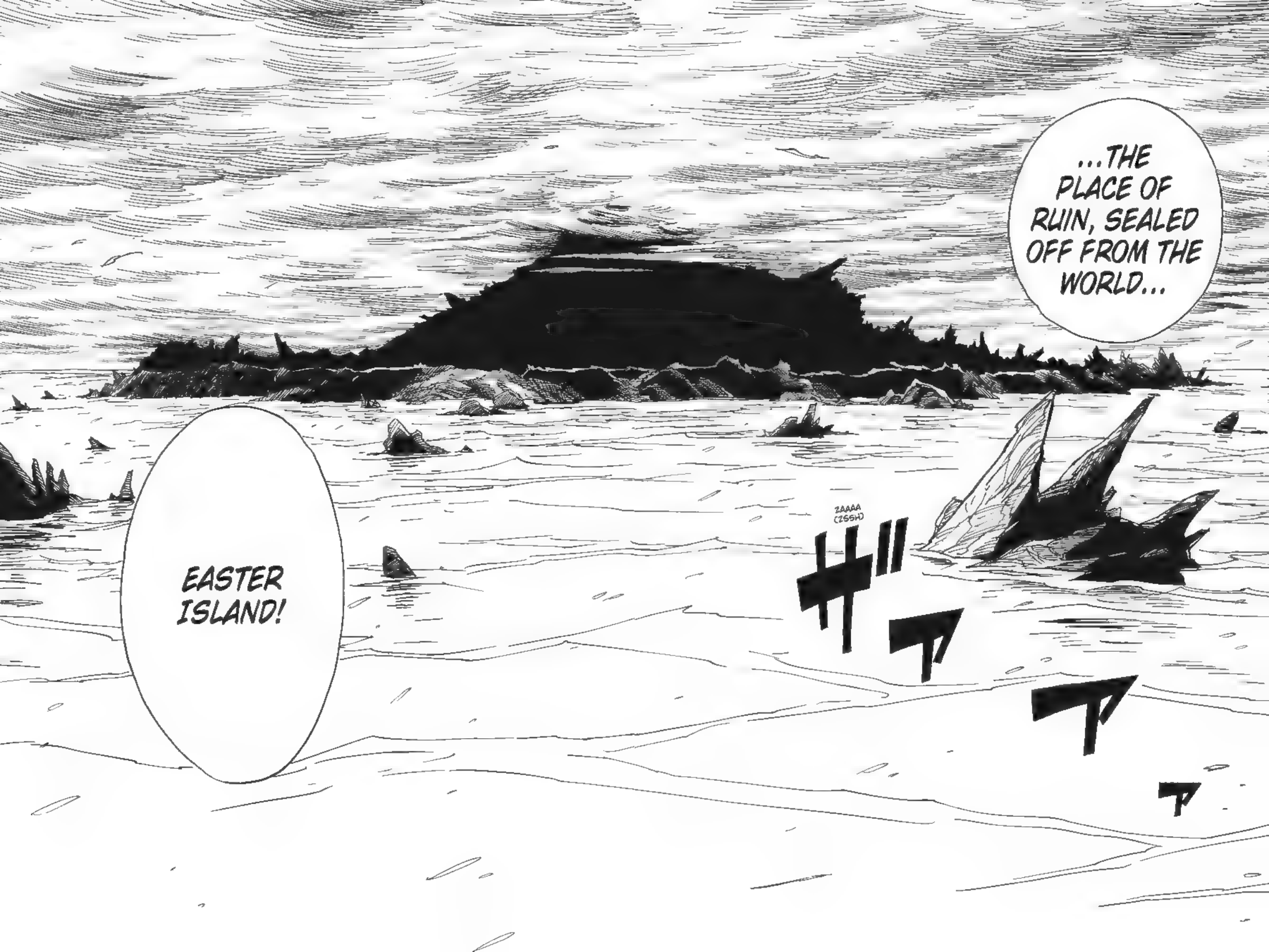
TO TELL THE TRUTH, I CAME TO SEE YOU TODAY...

A RACE, SO TO SPEAK.

...OPEN TO ALL.

OH, JUST A SIMPLE EVENT...

.....WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?


...THE PLACE OF RUIN, SEALED OFF FROM THE WORLD...
ZAAAA (ZSSH)
EASTER ISLAND!

EASTER ISLAND...

...WHAT DOES ***THAT BEAST*** MAKE OF THIS, I WONDER?

THAT FATEFUL LAND, OF ALL PLACES IN THE WORLD...

LETTER: SEVEN DAYS FROM NOW, EASTER ISLAND

8
192.5R0

7日後
イースター島へ

FILE.37
GATHERING

TALCAHUANO
GREATER CONCEPCIÓN,
CHILE, SOUTH AMERICA

THERE WAS THAT NASTY ACCIDENT. THE PLACE HAS BEEN SEALED OFF EVER SINCE.

.....IT'S BEEN NEARLY FIVE YEARS NOW...

WHAT DO I KNOW ABOUT EASTER ISLAND?

BUT NOWADAYS, NOT A SINGLE SOUL WILL SO MUCH AS GO ANYWHERE NEAR IT.

USED TO BE IT WAS ALWAYS BUSTLING WITH TOURISTS AND ISLAND-ERS...

A BIG PORT TOWN HAD SPRUNG UP THERE, 'FORE IT ENDED UP THAT WAY.

ARE THEY ALIVE? ARE THEY DEAD? ARE THEY ELSEWHERE?

DOSA (WHUMP)

AND NOBODY KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM.

ANYWAY, I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANYBODY WHO MADE IT OUT OF THERE.

ON THAT DAY, THERE WERE ABOUT TEN THOUSAND PEOPLE ON THE ISLAND, ALL TOLD...

WELL, THIS IS JUST WHAT I'VE HEARD.

CHA (CLINK)

KING CASINO

SO THERE ISN'T A SINGLE SOUL WHO CAN TELL YOU WHAT REALLY HAPPENED ON THAT ISLAND.

PA (FLIP)

IF IT'S THE WAR, NOW THAT I CAN TELL YOU ABOUT.

OR IS IT THE WAR YOU'RE ASKING ABOUT, AMIGO?

...IS IT THE ISLAND YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT?

...WAS MORE OF AN INTERNAL DISPUTE.

SU (SWIP)

UNLIKE THE FIRST WAR, THE SECOND WAR...

THERE WERE TWO WARS OVER THE COILS.

GOVERNMENTS, INDUSTRIES, AND THE MEDIA—WITH THEIR AGENDAS THROWN INTO THE MIX, THE DISPUTE GREW INTO WAR.

...AND THE OLD GUARD, THE FOLKS WHO WANTED TO KEEP COILS STRICTLY REGULATED AND UNDER NEW TESLA'S COMPLETE MONOPOLY.

NEW TESLA ENERGY HAD PRACTICALLY CONQUERED THE WORLD THANKS TO THEIR COILS. BUT THERE WAS FIGHTING WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION, BETWEEN THE NEW GUARD, A GROUP WHO THOUGHT THAT COILS OUGHT TO BE MADE A FREE RIGHT, AND DEREGULATED ...

AND THEN, AMIGO...

A CENTRAL WAS EVEN TAKEN OVER, AND ITS TOWER ALMOST BROUGHT DOWN, ACCORDING TO THE STORIES.

THERE WERE UNSTABLE COUNTRIES THAT TURNED INTO REAL WAR-ZONES.

MOST OF THOSE FOLKS HAD A HAND IN RILING UP THE PUBLIC, BUT THAT WAS IT. THEY NEVER CAME OUT INTO THE FOREFRONT. BUT, AMIGO...

THEY SAY THAT'S WHERE IT STARTED. AN ACCIDENT THE LIKES OF WHICH THE WORLD HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

...WHEN THE NEW GUARD FOUND THEMSELVES LOSING, THEY TOOK EASTER ISLAND AS THEIR LAST STRONGHOLD.

SFX: HISO (WHISPER) HISO

...AND THIS IS JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME.....

KA (FLASH)

Explain yourself.

.....

Everyone is bewildered by your actions.

I believe you are well aware of why we are all here today.

—So, young Salva.

And why Easter Island, after we have gone to such lengths to seal it off and keep it quarantined?

Why did you stir up the Collectors in such a manner?

Found what, boy?

"Found it"?

...I HAVE FOUND IT.

...THAT IS BECAUSE ...

I FOUND...

...A POSSIBILITY.

BEHOLD.

THIS IS AN IMAGE OF EASTER ISLAND IN ITS PRESENT STATE, AS RENDERED BY MY SATELLITES.

Present?

The area of orbit above Easter Island, too, is off-limits.

VLLLN CVWLMD

PIPI

PI

...I BELIEVE I AM NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS BEEN OBSERVING THE ISLAND THROUGH THIS SAME MEANS, AM I?

.....AND IN THE FIRST PLACE...

ALL IN A *PRIVATE* CAPACITY, OF COURSE.

TO CREATE THIS RECONSTRUCTION, I MADE USE OF NUMEROUS SATELLITES ORBITING OUTSIDE OF THE RESTRICTED AREA ABOVE EASTER ISLAND.

.....Go on.

15 ZAWA (MURAKAMI) 16 17 18 ZAWA 19 ZAWA

...IT FELL INTO WHAT DR. YURIZAKI HIMSELF REFERRED TO AS THE "NOTHINGNESS OF POSSIBILITY."

TO WIT...

...THE AFTEREFFECTS OF THE UNPRECEDENTED DIMENSIONAL DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE ACCIDENT DRAINED THE ENTIRE ISLAND AREA OF DIMENSION W ENERGY, UNTIL THE ENERGY LEVELS HIT ZERO.

THE INCIDENT AT EASTER ISLAND.

NATURALLY, COILS COULD NOT BE USED EITHER.

A COMPLETE "ZERO" STATE, UNCONTROLLABLE EVEN WITH THE TOWERS.

WHAT OF THE LIVING ORGANISMS— LET US CALL THEM THE CHILDREN OF POSSIBILITY— WITHIN THAT VOID? THE RESULTS OF THE INCIDENT SUBSTANTIATE THE GOOD DOCTOR'S THEORIES .....

THAT BEING, LIFE COULD NOT BE SUSTAINED.

Dr. Yurizaki's theories regarding a possible connection between Dimension W and life have not yet been proven true.

Furthermore, that is top secret company information.

Choose your words carefully.

OH, I AM CERTAINLY AWARE.

ORGANISMS GROW COLD, STIFFEN, AND ARE REDUCED TO MERE INORGANIC MATTER...

BUWA (WWJM)

ズズズ

THIS IS AN ENLARGEMENT OF AN AREA OF EASTER ISLAND, FOUR WEEKS AGO.

PACHIN (SNAP)

ピヨン

HYJN (SSTD)

ON TO THE NEXT IMAGE.

.....EITHER WAY, EASTER ISLAND BECAME AN ISLAND OF DEATH.

..... NOW.

WATCH IT CLOSELY.

FOR YOU SEE, YOU ARE ACTUALLY OBSERV-ING VIDEO FOOTAGE.

THIS WINDOW.....

A CRUMBLING BUILDING IN THE ISLAND CENTER.

THERE!

-HYU- (WHSH)

What a waste of time...

As if we'll see any-thing...

.....

ピタッ

PITA (FREEZE)

!!?

...WHAT DOES IT RESEMBLE?

THIS SHINING OBJECT...

EASTER ISLAND SHOULD BE TRAPPED INSIDE A "NOTHINGNESS OF POSSIBILITY." YET YOU AND I HAVE JUST OBSERVED TRACES OF COIL USE THERE.

.....YES.

YOU CAN SEE THIS LIGHT FORM BECAUSE IT IS A VISUALIZATION CREATED BY DIMENSIONAL INTERFERENCE WAVES EMITTED BY A COIL .....

DOESN'T IT RESEMBLE THE HUMAN FORM?

...IF YOU MUST KNOW ...

...THEN THERE IS NO CHOICE BUT TO GO THERE AND SEE FOR OURSELVES, WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?

WHAT HAS BECOME OF EASTER ISLAND?

WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT HUMAN SHAPE?

DOESN'T IT INTRIGUE YOU?

.....THE ANSWER IS QUITE SIMPLE.

Our company has specialized Q.I. troops precisely for missions such as this.

... Salva.

Why is there any need to hire Collectors?

WHO WAS IT THAT PULLED THE TRIGGER ON THE SECOND COIL WAR?

WHO WAS IT THAT CARRIED OUT AN ASSAS-SINATION ON THE YURIZAKI FAMILY? PEOPLE FROM WITHIN THE COMPANY!

BECAUSE I TRUST NO ONE!

.....BUT TO SNEAK AROUND IN THE SHADOWS BECAUSE I TRUST NO ONE...

...WOULD DEFEAT THE POINT.

FOR THE TRUE PURPOSE OF MY ACTIONS...

...IS TO ENSURE THAT THERE WILL BE NO SUCH SECRET MANEU-VERS.

TO BE MORE OPEN!

IT WILL BE A RACE WHERE ANYONE WITH ENOUGH SKILL CAN PARTICI-PATE.

THE ONE WHO FINDS THE ANSWERS WE SEEK WILL RECEIVE A REWARD ...

...FROM MY OWN PERSONAL FUNDS.

Yes, I understand your intentions now.

...I see.

.....

NEW TESLA ENERGY CAN OBSERVE EVERYTHING THAT TAKES PLACE ON THE ISLAND WHILE CONCEALED, AS ALWAYS.

...AND, IN TURN, FOR AFRICA.

OF COURSE, I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS BEST FOR CENTRAL GO...

THANK YOU, PRESIDENT.

It is rather self-indulgent, but I can see that it would be for the benefit of New Tesla Energy as a whole.

GATA (SCRAPE)

ガタッ

President !?

From here on, you are to coordinate with Q.I.4.

The New Tesla Energy Group will back this plan of yours.

Very well.

President!

President!

HYUN (PSST)

ZUBUBU (ZBB)

KURU (SPIN)

GATA (SCRAPE)

This meeting is adjourned.

.....

YOUR ORDERS ARE DULY NOTED.

KACHA (CLICK)

CHA

MYAA

MYAA (SQUAWK)

SO...

MMN...

—BACK IN SOUTH AMERICA

HOW D'WE GET THERE, ELDER BROTHER?

EASTER ISLAND ...

MMN...

LED ME THINK...

AS UNCLEAR AS EVER, BROTHER MINE!

THADD-AWAY.

...NO, THADD-AWAY.

COLLECTORS DEBBIE & HARRY
THE EASTRIVER SIBLINGS

DON'T
(THUD)
MOVE IT.
PUDGY.
EGAD!
THAT TOURIST GUIDE IS OUT OF DATE, BROTHER MINE!
THERE'S AN AIRPORT NEARBY ...
...I'B PREDDY SURE YOU CAN ONLY GED DO EASDER ISLAND BY PLANE.
THAT'S THE RUSSIAN...
AH!
BROTHER MINE!
THE DESTROYER (COLLECTOR) OF CENTRAL 3
YURI ANTONOV

GOOOO (ROAR)

ゴオオオオ

(TO ALL COLLECTORS)

Всем Агентам по
сбору Койла

WHAT A WAY TO CALL US TO BATTLE...

HMPH.

OOOO

THIS ISN'T SMART AT ALL.

OH, MAN.

...BUT I'D HAVE BEEN ENOUGH TO HANDLE IT ON MY OWN.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS GIG ENTAILS...

NO. 1 COLLECTOR IN THE AMERICAS, THE "HERO" JASON CHRYSLER

AH!

THERE'S ANOTHER, BROTHER MINE!

.....

NO. 2 COLLECTOR IN THE AMERICAS, THE "HITMAN" K.K.

WHOOOAA...

ALL THESE FAMOUS COLLEC-TORS...

AND ANOTHER!

THERE'S ANOTHER!

WE'LL HAVETA BE AT THE TOP OF OUR GAME!

THEY MUST ALL BE GOIN' TO EASTER ISLAND!

THIS'S INCRED-IBLE, BROTHER MINE!

SIGH.

HM...

ACTUALLY, I THINK THAT MAKES THIS THE RIGHT WAY, BROTHER MINE.

MYSTERIOUS COLLECTOR GIRL
ELIZABETH
GREENHOUGH SMITH

...SO AT THE END OF THE DAY...

...HERE I AM STUCK IN THIS GETUP AGAI—

UM, AHEM.

I'VE BEEN FORCED TO TAKE THIS APPEARANCE ONCE MORE.

I REALIZE DADDY NEEDS THE DISGUISE, BUT I DON'T SEE ANY POINT IN DISGUISING MYSELF...

WELL, DADDY?

HOW IS IT?

.....

NEW TESLA ENERGY KEEPS THE AIRPORT UNDER STRICT CONTROL.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT GATE IS THE ONE AND ONLY ROUTE TO EASTER ISLAND... THE SECOND CONCEPCION AIRPORT.

LOOK...

I SEE NO ISSUES. WE CAN DO THIS...

ANY VESSEL APPROACHING FROM AN UNAUTHORIZED ROUTE WOULD BE DESTROYED.

THE ISLAND IS GUARDED BY AN AUTOMATED HIGH-POWERED DEFENSE GRID.

IMPOS-SIBLE.

BUT COULDN'T ANYONE TAKE A BOAT OR WHAT-EVER OUT TO THE ISLAND?

ビー
BIII (BUZZ)

GARA (CLACK)

ガラ
ガラ

OH!

SOUNDS LIKE THEY OPENED THE GATE.

OHO...

...IS THROUGH THIS AIRPORT'S AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM.

AND THE AUTHORIZED ROUTE IS UPDATED BY THE MINUTE, AND THE ONLY WAY TO KNOW WHAT IT IS...

GARA
GARA
GARA
GARA (CLACK)

...O BRAVE COLLECTORS!

WELL DONE...

I WELCOME YOU.

A GREETING FROM A C.O.O. HIMSELF?

THAT YOU UNDERSTOOD THE MEANING OF YOUR INVITATIONS AND MADE IT HERE SAFELY PROVES THAT YOU ARE THE BEST OF THE BEST.

UNTIL THEN, YOU MAY MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME AT THE HOTEL EL ROSAL, WHICH YOU CAN SEE TO THE LEFT.

I'VE RESERVED THE ENTIRE HOTEL.

REST AND RESTORE YOUR ENERGY.

WE DEPART IN TWO DAYS' TIME.

...UPON OUR ARRIVAL.

YOU WILL RECEIVE FURTHER INSTRUC-TIONS...

...NO... IT IS NOTHING.

SOME-THING ON YOUR MIND, DADDY?

...

?

GARA ガラ

GARA ガラ

GARA (CLACK)

LOOSE PURSE STRINGS THERE.

SO THE BEAST IS NOT COMING .....?

.....

BEFORE THEY TAKE ALL THE GOOD ROOMS.

OH, 'KAY.

LET'S GO THEN.

MR. KYOUMA, I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE!

MR. KYOU-MA!

BAN

BAN (BAM)

MIIN (BuZZ)

MIIN

JAPAN

KACHA

KACHA (CRANK)

KACHA

WE NEED TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY, OR WE WON'T MAKE IT TO EASTER ISLAND IN TIME!

AREN'T WE GOING?

.....

K.R.I

KIRI (CRINK)

MR. KYOUMAAA!

FILE.38
A PAST LIFE

GUGH!

BUH!

GO (POW)

YOU BAS-TARD!

DOKA (WHAM)

BOSU (WHUD)

HE'S HELLA STRONG!

WHO IS THIS GUY!?

KYOUMA MABUCHI
191 CM, 17 YEARS OLD

WEAKLINGS ...

...SHOULDN'T BE PICKIN' FIGHTS, PUNKS.

DROP DEAD!

...

YOU'RE GONNA DIE!

WE'LL GET YOU FOR THIS!

DAMN IT!

LIKE I'D DIE. I!!DIOTS.

A BIG FRAME AND A MEAN LOOK. THAT'S ALL IT TOOK FOR PEOPLE TO COME AT ME.

DIDN'T EVEN GET TO DRINK IT.

TCH...

ORANGE

HYU (FLING)

HYUUU (WHIZ)

HRUMPH.

GAKOON (CA-CLUNK)

A PUNK LIKE ME, MEETING A GIRL LIKE HER... IT WAS PURE CHANCE.

PARA (PLIP)

RAIN?

PARA

ZAAAAA (FSSH)

JUST MY LUCK!

PASHA

PASHA

PASHA (SPLASH)

WHEW.

ZAAAA

PASHA

PASHA

SIGN: TO THE FUTURE. THE ERA OF COILS IS COMING

HRN?

ZAAAA

EXCUSE ME...

PA (PAT)

THIS SUCKS.

WOULD YOU PERHAPS BE SO KIND AS TO HELP ME.....?

OVER HERE...
WHO'S THERE?
WHERE ARE YOU?
ZAAAAA (FSSH)

.....THE HECK ARE YOU DOING?

I...I'M STUCK. I CAN'T MOVE.....

YEAH? HOW'D THAT HAPPEN?

A CAT...

I WAS TRYING TO GET A PHOTO OF A CAT, SO I CLIMBED ONTO THE WALL...

BUT THEN I SLIPPED OFF.....

IS THAT A CAMERA YOU'RE HOLDING?

YES.

HOLD ON A SEC. I'LL GETCHA OUT OF THERE.

HUFF ...

WHEW.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SAAAA (FSSH)

I HONESTLY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD DO FOR A MOMENT THERE.....

YOU'RE A CLUMSY ONE, AREN'CHA?

YOUR CAMERA OKAY?

...I THINK SO.

IT LOOKS PRETTY BEAT UP TO ME.

OH, IT WAS MY GRAND-FATHER'S... I LIKE ANTIQUES .....

MY FAMILY RUNS A KIMONO SHOP, SO WE HAVE A LOT OF OLD THINGS...

HMM...

.....

WH...

WHAT IS IT...?

ASAHI PENTAX

...NOTH-IN'.

JUST AIN'T EVERY DAY I MEET SOMEBODY WHO AIN'T AFRAID OF ME.

...SO LONG.

I'M MIYABI AZUMAYA.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

W..... WAIT!

ME?

THE NAME'S...

AFTER THAT, SHE'D WALK WITH ME EVERY TIME SHE SPOTTED ME.

IT WENT ON WHEN I FAILED MY FIRST STAB AT COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS, AND AFTER I GOT INTO COLLEGE TOO. WE WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER, AND FIGURED WE ALWAYS WOULD BE.

THAT THING'S AN ANTIQUE, WHAT WITH COILS POWERING EVERYTHING THESE DAYS.

BUT IT'S MY MOST CHERISHED GOOD LUCK CHARM.

IT'S OLD, IT DOESN'T TAKE GOOD PHOTOS, AND I CAN'T GET FILM FOR IT...

MY PARENTS HAD GIVEN UP ON ME LONG AGO. I WAS NOTHING BUT TROUBLE.

STOP, KYOU!

HMM ?

TRYIN'A GANG UP ON A GIRL AND DRAG HER AWAY? YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE!

SHE WAS THE ONE PERSON WHO DIDN'T TOSS ME OUT WITH THE TRASH.

UH-OH.

HOW MANY TIMES DOES THIS MAKE, KYOUMA .....?

.....SHE SHOUTED MY EAR OFF AGAIN.

MY SISTER WORRIES ABOUT YOU TOO.

'S NOT ME SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT. IT'S YOU, BECAUSE YOU HANG AROUND ME.

MAYBE, BUT...

I THINK IT MEANS THAT SHE APPROVES OF YOU.

SHE DOESN'T OPPOSE ME BEING WITH YOU. SHE SAID SHE APPROVES OF HOW YOU'RE SO DIRECT.

I MIGHT GET KICKED OUTTA SCHOOL FOR THIS, YOU KNOW.

EVEN IF THE WHOLE WORLD TURNS AGAINST YOU...

CHU (SMOOCH)

...I'LL BE ON YOUR SIDE.

IT'S OKAY.

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS...

...I'LL ALWAYS BE RIGHT THERE WITH YOU.

IF ONLY THAT WERE THE CASE...

AH...!

KAKLIN (TWIST)

カランッ

GASHA CRACK

PASHI CATCH

MIYABI!

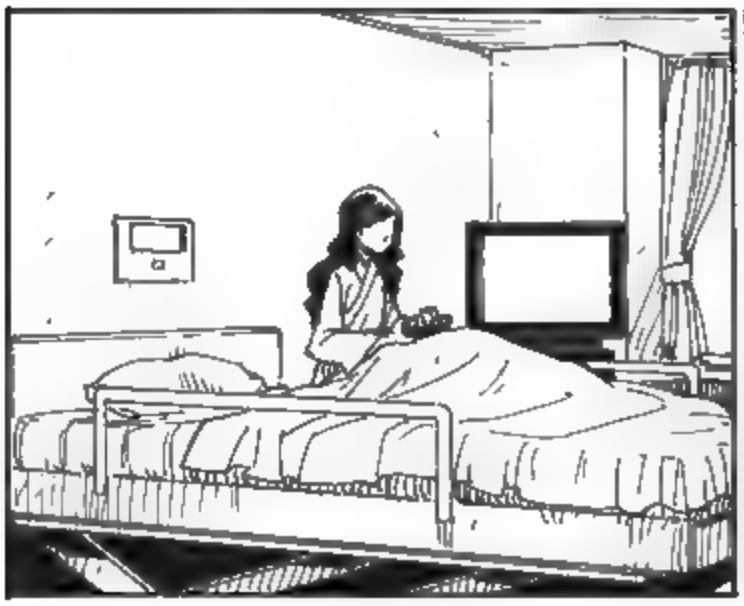
I BROKE THE CAMERA...

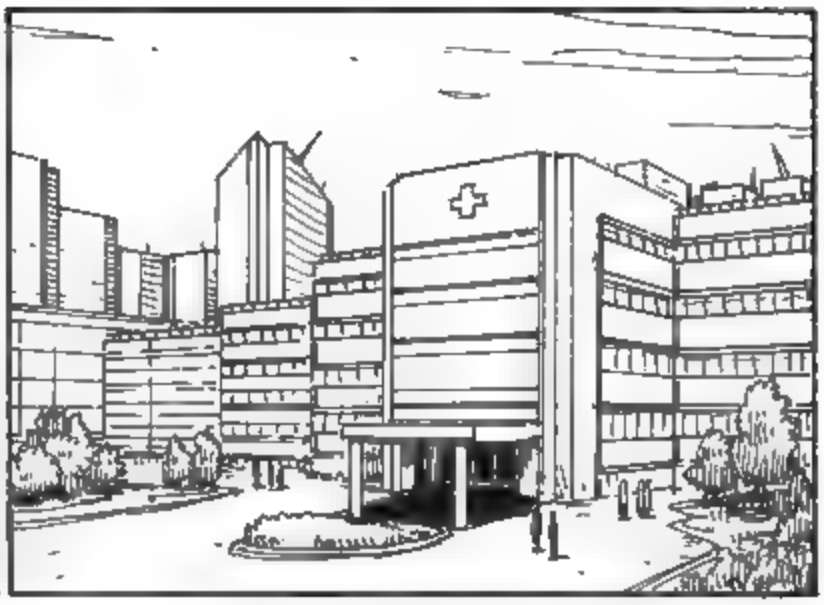
...OH NO...

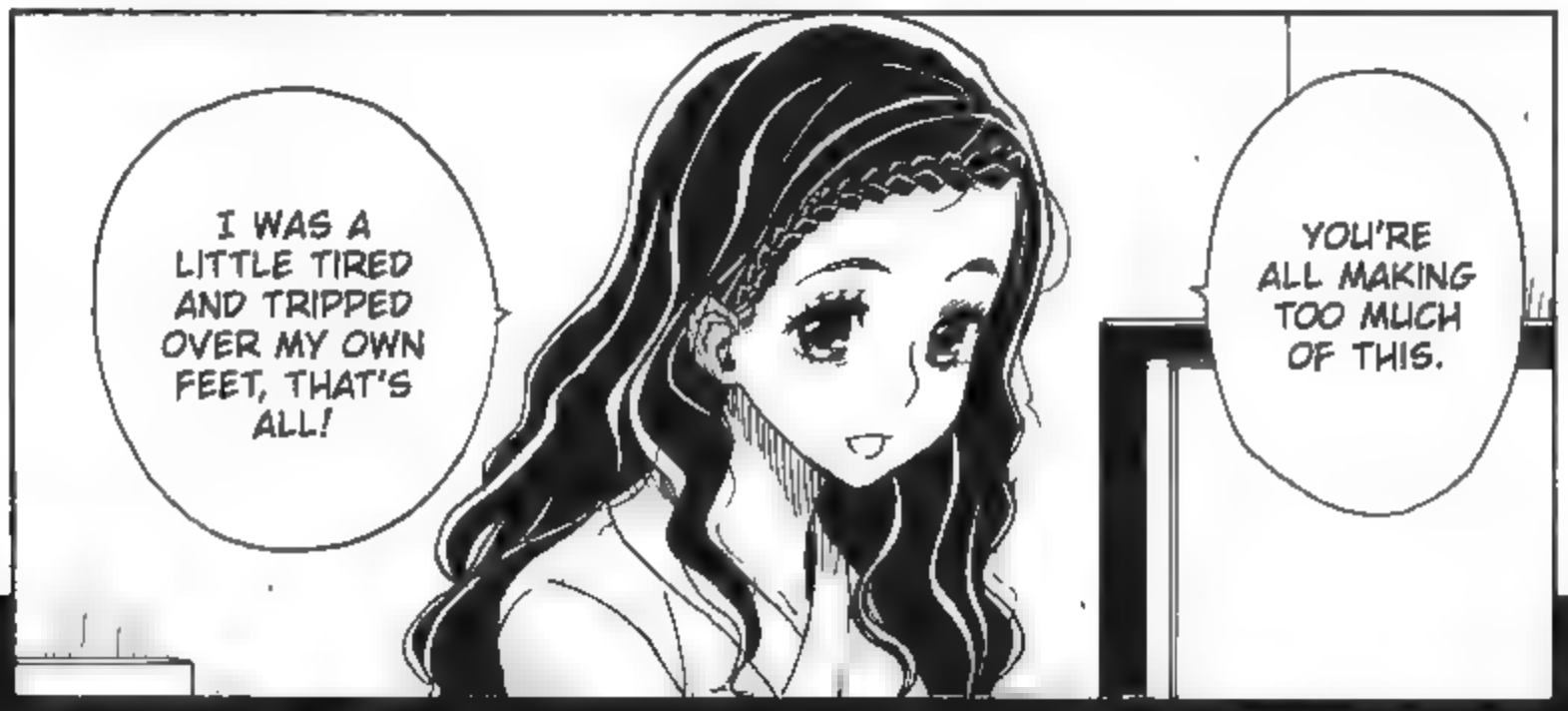
ARE YOU OKAY, MIYABI?

YEAH... I JUST STUMBLED...

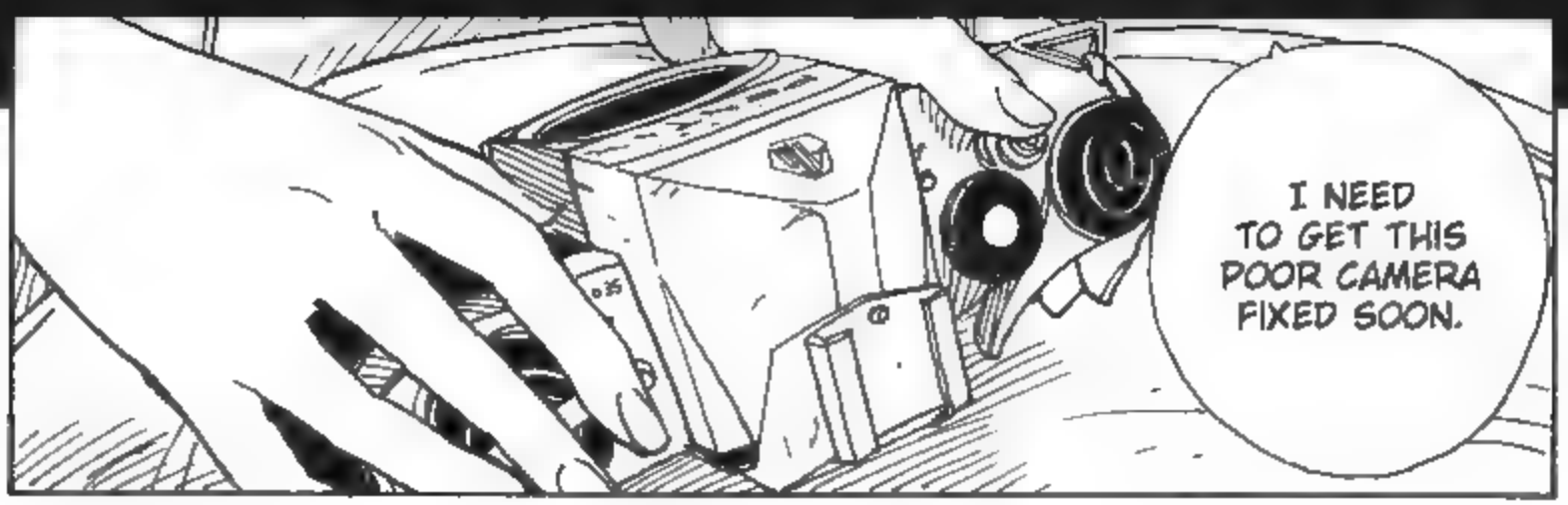
I'D HAVE BEEN SO.....







IT WAS AN INCURABLE DISEASE.
HER MUSCLES WOULD GRADUALLY WASTE AWAY.



IN THREE TO FIVE YEARS, THE MUSCLES IN HER LUNGS AND HEART WOULD STOP WORKING, AND SHE WOULD DIE.

THAT'S WHAT THE DOCTORS SAID.

I REFUSE TO ACCEPT THAT FATE.

まったく新しい
医療
可能性

SIGN: CUTTING-EDGE MEDICAL POSSIBILITIES / FUTURE CYBERNETICS

まったく新しい
医療
可能性

SIGN: CUTTING-EDGE MEDICAL POSSIBILITIES

I'M SIMPLY TELLING YOU THE FACTS!

DON (WHAM)

H.....

HURTING ME WON'T CHANGE A THING!

OW! OW! OW!

IF YOU CAN'T DO IT, THEN WHO CAN!?

...A WHOLE ARTIFICIAL BODY? IT'S SIMPLY NOT DOABLE!

...BUT...

WE'VE STRENGTHENED PEOPLE WITH COIL-POWERED PROSTHETIC LIMBS, WE'VE PERFORMED ALL KINDS OF SURGERIES...

YES, WE PRIDE OUR-SELVES AS THE BEST IN THE WORLD IN ORTHO-PEDICS.

SOMEONE WORKING TOWARD THE CREATION OF AN ARTIFICIAL BODY THAT COULD COMPLETELY REPLACE A HUMAN ONE...

...BUT THAT'S NOT TO SAY THERE ISN'T SOMEONE TRYING TO MAKE IT HAPPEN...

L-LIKE I JUST TOLD YOU, WITH PRESENT-DAY TECHNOLOGY, FULL-BODY CYBERNETICS IS IMPOSSIBLE...

THESE DAYS, SHE'S QUITE OUT OF REACH.

SHE'S, WELL.....

I CAN TELL YOU HER NAME, BUT I DOUBT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MEET HER.

AND WHO'S THAT?

DR. SEIRA YURI-ZAKI!

CENTRAL 15 CYBERNETICS MEDICAL SYMPOSIUM

GAPA (CLICK)

WE JUST RECEIVED THE LATEST SAMPLE FROM THE LAB.

YES.

IT'S DESIGNED TO BE AUTO-MATICALLY SELF-REPAIRED BY RE-PLENISHING NANO-MACHINES.

THE SILICON LAYER BENEATH IT IS UN-CHANGED FROM THE LAST SAMPLE, CORRECT?

THE OUTER SKIN IS TOP-OF-THE-LINE. IT LOOKS REALISTIC, AND IT HAS BOTH ELASTICITY AND FIRM-NESS.

LET ME TAKE A LOOK.

PUN (POKE)

PUN

YOU THERE!

STOP!

WHAT'S THE COMMOTION?

IF IT'S POSSIBLE, I'D LIKE TO USE NANO-MACHINES TO STRENGTHEN THE SKELETAL STRUCTURE OF THE HUMAN BODY AS WELL...

ADJUSTMENTS AT THE GENETIC LEVEL WILL BE NECESSARY TO MAKE THE IMMUNE SYSTEM COMPATIBLE... THE SAME HOLDS FOR THE NERVOUS SYSTEM, OF COURSE...

.....

THE ONE REMAINING ISSUE IS HOW TO CONNECT IT TO THE HUMAN BODY.

AH!!!

DA CDART?

SOME-BODY STOP THAT KID!

...I CAN'T STOP FOR ANY-BODY!

I'VE GOT A DAMN GOOD REASON ...

OHO...

YOU'RE DR. SEIRA YURIZAKI, AREN'T YOU!?

WHAT?

YES, I AM...

TA (STOMP)

TA

TA

I NEED TO ASK YOU...

BA (BAM)

...FOR A BIG FAVOR!

BACK AWAY FROM THE STEPS!

HE WON'T BUDGE!

...UNTIL I GET A "YES" .....!

YOU'RE NOT GONNA PRY ME AWAY FROM HERE.....

THERE'S A GIRL NAMED MIYABI AZUMAYA! YOU HAVE TO SAVE HER! PLEASE!

...BUT THAT'S NOT ENOUGH.

YOU'VE GOT FIGHT IN YOU...

ZOKU (SHUDDER)

!

TON (TAP)

TON

DAMN... IT...

ZUBAN (KAPOW)

ズバーン

I HAD A LOOK THROUGH YOUR FILE.

KYOUMA MABUCHI.

VERY INTEREST-ING.

KA (FLASH)

...IT SEEMS YOU HAVE A SPECIAL TALENT FOR "THROWING."

MOST NOTABLY...

...AND MATCHLESS PHYSICAL PROWESS.

YOU'RE GIFTED WITH A POWERFUL PHYSIQUE UNCOMMON IN ASIANS...

I HAPPEN TO BE RECRUITING PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL TALENTS SUCH AS YOURS.

I AM COLIN KEYS.

I HADN'T INTRO-DUCED MYSELF YET, HAD I?

.....WHAT'S IT TO YOU?

IF YOU'D DEVOTED YOURSELF TO SPORTS, YOU COULD HAVE GONE ALL THE WAY TO THE OLYMPICS.

...TO FORM A ***SUPER-HUMAN UNIT*** BY THE NAME OF ***"GRENDEL."***

A SUPER-HUMAN UNIT .....

..."GRENDEL" !?

YES.

I WON'T HIDE THIS FROM YOU... THE MAN WHO BEGAN PROJECT GRENDEL IS NONE OTHER THAN DR. SEIRA'S HUSBAND, DR. SHIDOU YURIZAKI.

WITH THAT IN MIND...

IF YOU JOIN UP, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE YOUR WISHES KNOWN TO HER, THROUGH DR. SHIDOU.

YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A MEMBER.

...BUT I.....

AT LEAST LET ME FINISH.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

OF COURSE, YOU WOULD NEED TO HAVE YOUR GIRLFRIEND'S CONSENT FIRST.

...ASKING DR. SEIRA TO PRIORITIZE YOUR GIRL-FRIEND AS A TEST SUBJECT.

...

DEPENDING ON YOUR PERFORMANCE, I COULD EVEN WRITE A PETITION ON YOUR BEHALF...

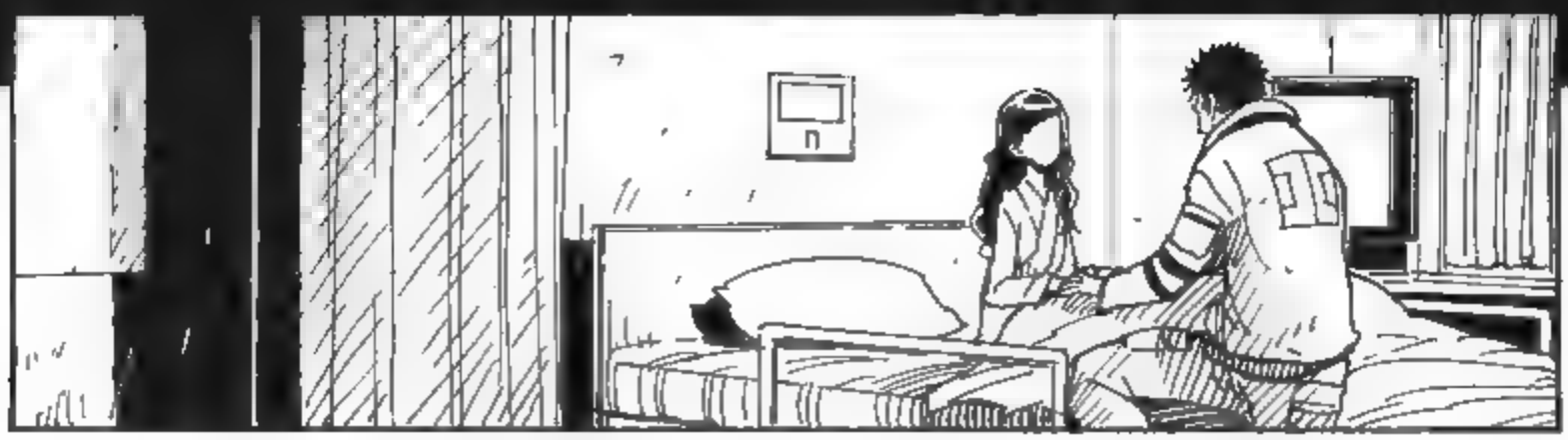
...IF YOU ARE WILLING TO BET IT ALL ON THE SLIGHTEST OF POSSIBILITIES ...

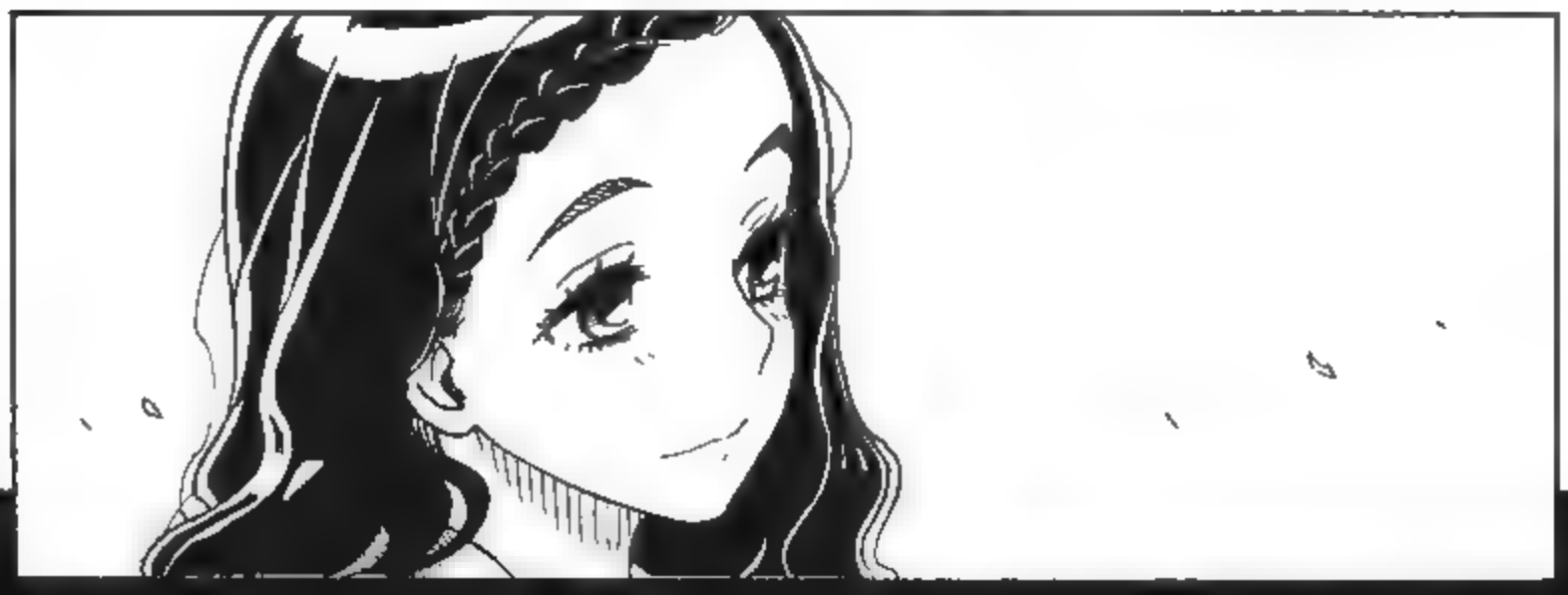
BUT IF YOU WISH TO SAVE HER LIFE...

NOTE THAT IT WILL NOT BE AN EASY ROAD.

...THEN COME TO ME.

THERE WAS NO DOUBT IN MY MIND.

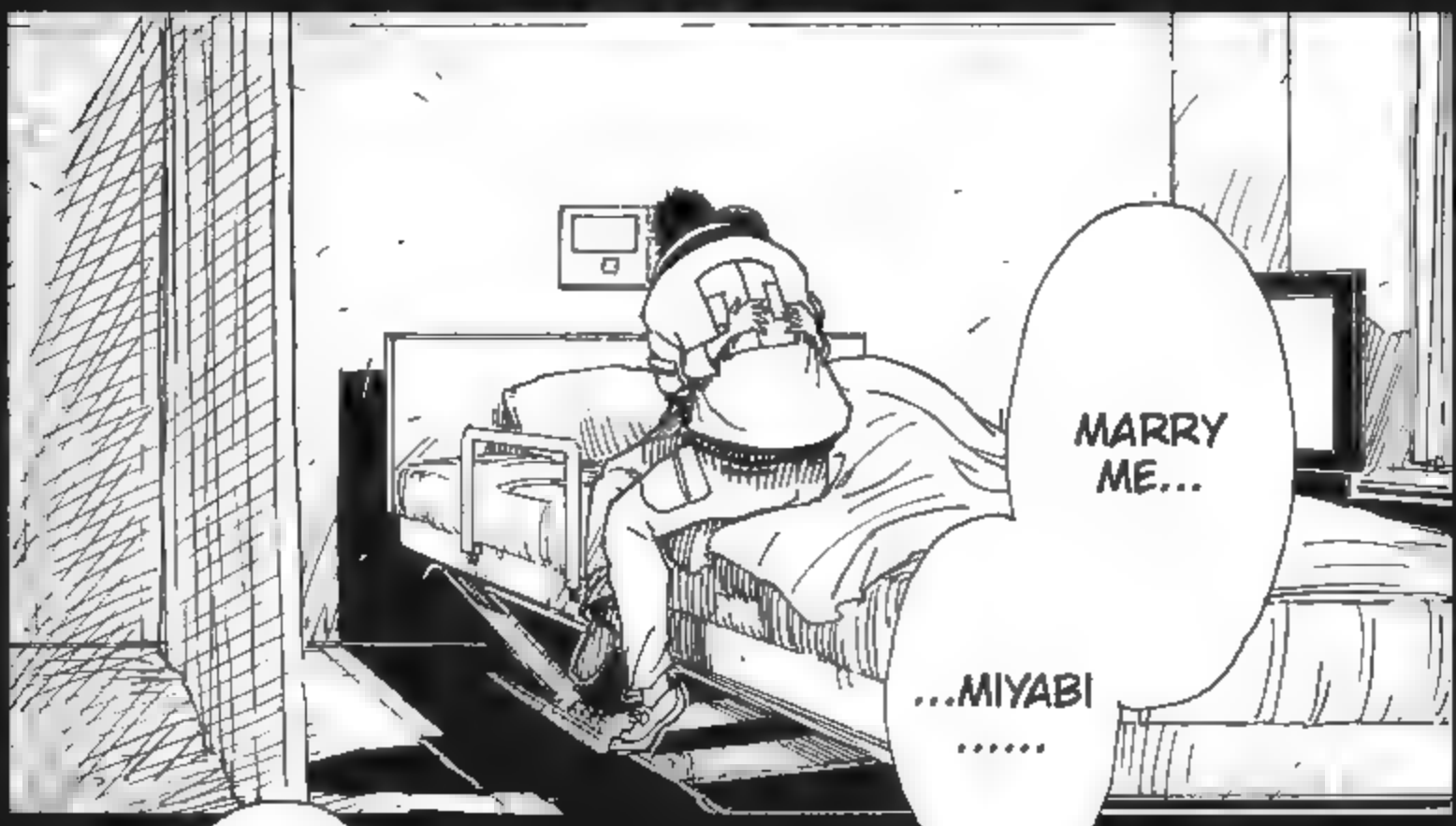




SHE TRUSTED ME, NO QUESTIONS ASKED.

LITTLE DID WE KNOW...

THAT WE WOULD BE FOREVER APART...



FILE.39
TO DISAPPEAR INTO DARKNESS

—Yes.

That's correct.

He's been holed up in the garage ever since...

KYOUMA, KYOUMA, KYOUMA. RELAPSED TO HIS SHUT-IN WAYS, DID HE?

NYEH HEH.

Yes, ma'am.

LET ME KNOW IF HE COMES OUT.

HILARIOUS.

.....WELL, NO HELPING HIM.

NO ONE WOULD BE MORE SUITED FOR THIS RIDICULOUS RACE THAN HIM...

HAVE YOU EVER LOST ANYTHING IMPORTANT?

DO YOU HAVE ROOM TO TALK, MARY?

GON (WONK)

DON'T YOU DARE JUDGE. YOU'RE JUST A KID WHO'S NEVER EXPERI-ENCED THE PAIN OF LOSS.

YOW!

HIS DEAD TEAM-MATES'LL BE ROLLING IN THEIR GRAVES AT THIS!

SCARY.

NYEH HEH!

BURU (SHIVER)

.....I REALLY DID THINK...

...THAT HE'D BOUNCED BACK.....

YES, MA'AM.

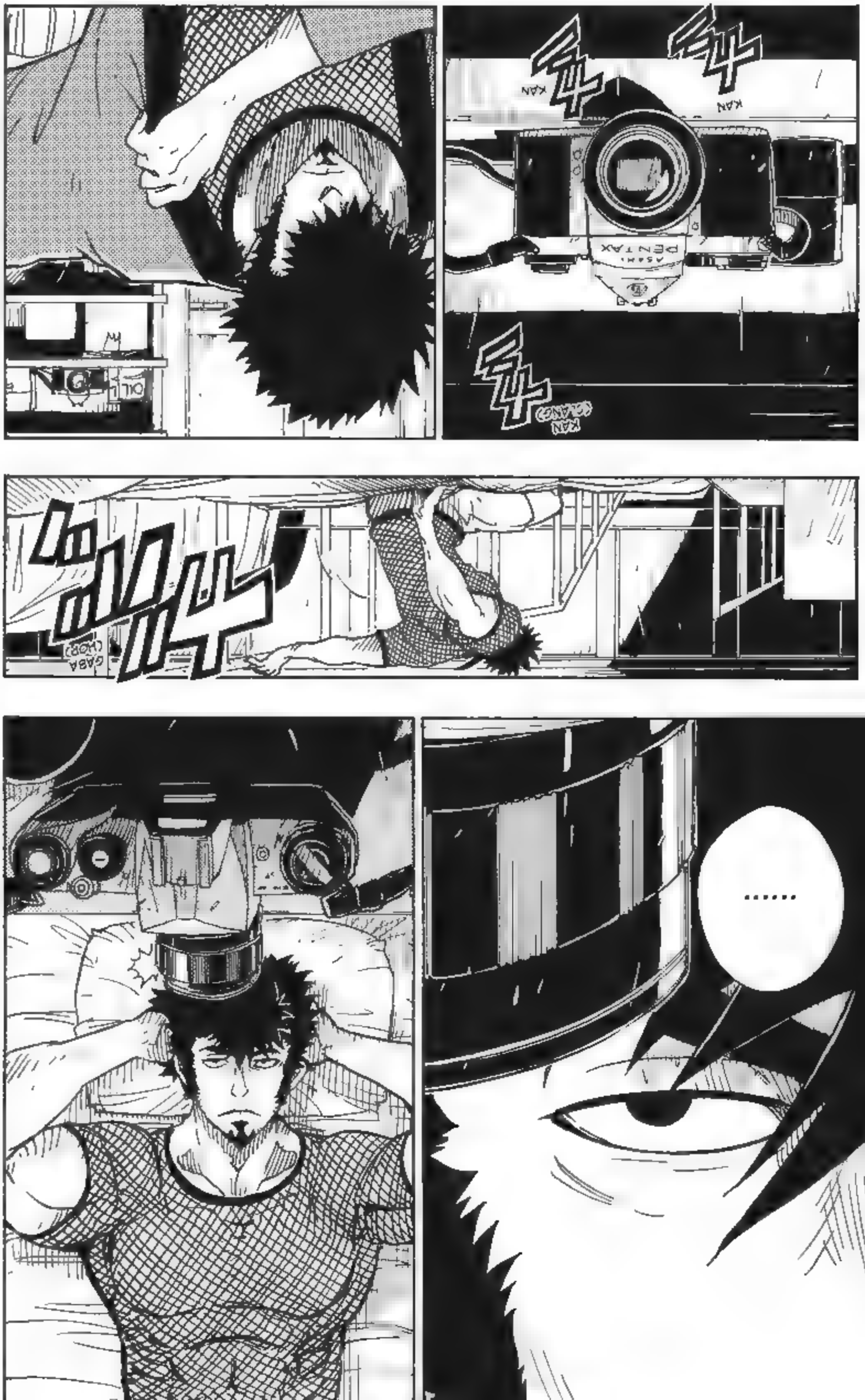
I WANT FOUR REPAIRED YES-TERDAY, KOOROGI. GET TO IT.

HMPH.

.....IS THIS REALLY THE CHOICE YOU WANT TO MAKE...

...KYOUMA?

SON


カメラ
(CAMERA)
KAN
KAN
KAN
PENTAX
ASAHI
DLL
GABA
(HOP)
……

SERVICE

.....

OH!

K!!! (CREAK)

GARA (CLACK)

GARA

GARA

THE GENERATOR AND OUTDOOR UNIT ARE OUT HERE ANYWAY!

MAYBE HE'LL COME OUT IF THE AIR CONDITIONING STOPS?

BORUN (VRRROOM)

GARA

GARA

GARA

GARA

DON'T FOLLOW ME.

WHERE ARE YOU OFF TO, MR. KYOUMA?

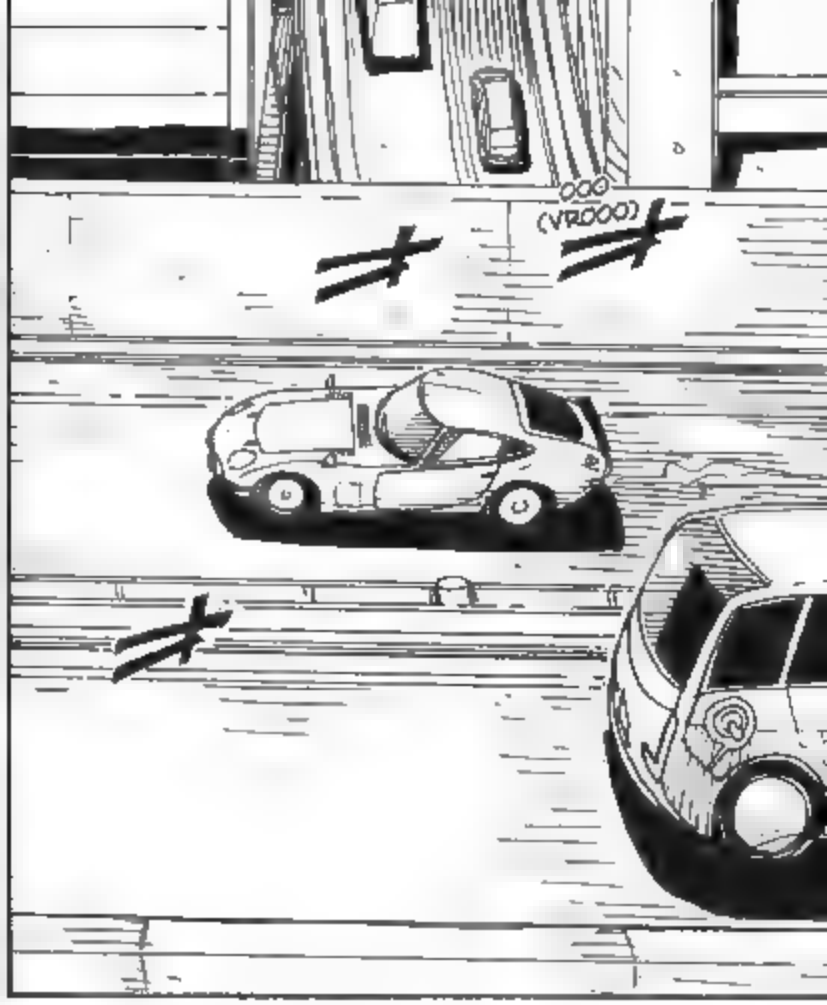
BOBO (PUTTER)

MR. KYOUMA .....

BO

BO

BO


(VROOO)

ZAA
ZAZA
(FSSW)
BARURURU
(WHUPWHUP)

...AND RECAPTURE IT FROM ENEMY FORCES.

OUR MISSION IS TO INFILTRATE THE NEW TESLA ENERGY FACILITY SPANNING THE NORTHERN PART OF EASTER ISLAND...

THIS WILL BE THE MOST DANGER-OUS AND DIFFICULT MISSION OF YOUR LIVES.

THE ENEMY HAS TAKEN IT AS THEIR FINAL STRONG-HOLD.

STEEL YOUR-SELVES!

WE MAY RUN INTO TECHNOLOGY NO ONE'S EVER EVEN SEEN BEFORE.

STATE-OF-THE-ART ROBOTS, COILS TUNED TO DO GOD KNOWS WHAT...

SIR, YES, SIR!

ALBERT, GET IN POSITION.

YOU'RE OUR SNIPER.

Pick off anything you see from over the ocean.

ROGER THAT, BOSS.

BARURu (WHUP)

(APAA (SPLOOSH)

BA (WHOOM)

NI (GRIN)

KYUUN (VWEEN)

JA (CHAK)

KNOCK IT OFF.

You needn't worry about that, Mabuchi.

I wouldn't want to upset the lady waiting for you.

At least not today.

I'll have your backs, as always.

DON'T SHOOT ME BY MISTAKE, AL.

TODAY, SHE'S FIGHTING ALONGSIDE ME.

YEAH, DOUG. IT'S TODAY.

WHAT-EVER HER SURGERY WAS.

WAS IT TODAY ?

FINAL SHIELD CHECK!

THAT'S ENOUGH CHIT-CHAT.

THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING.

THEN WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE.

AND REMEMBER, THE ENEMY WILL LIKELY BE USING THE SAME SHIELDS AS US.

BE CARE-FUL.

YOUR ENERGY SHIELDS WILL NEVER RUN OUT OF POWER THANKS TO COIL TECHNOLOGY, BUT THE PARTS THEMSELVES WON'T HOLD UP UNDER A CONSTANT WORKLOAD.

PI (BEEP)

BUN ブン

BUUN (VWUM) ブーン

YOU'RE TO LEAD TEAM A IN THE CHARGE THROUGH THE FRONT.

YOUR SPIN DARTS ARE EFFECTIVE AGAINST ENERGY SHIELDS.

MABU-CHI.

DO NOT REMAIN UNDER CONSTANT FIRE YOURSELF.

KEEP THEM UNDER CONSTANT FIRE TO KEEP DAMAGING THEM.

WE'LL FORCE THE ENEMY TO BREAK UP THEIR FIRE-POWER.

TEAMS B AND C WILL BRING UP THE REAR WITH ME.

ROGER.

BUWA (WHOOM)

BARURURU (WHUR)

TEAM A, COMMENCE LANDING!

SHOW THEM WHAT WE BEASTS WERE MADE FOR!

THIS IS IT, MEN!

GO, GO, GO!

FOR A LITTLE WHILE, THE OPERATION WENT SMOOTHLY.

KASHA (CHAK)

PYUII (VWEEE)

SHUPIN (SHWING)

Warn ing.

Warn- ing.

PYUU (WHIZ)

KYURURURURU (WHIRR)

BAu (BAM)

GIIIN (KREEN)

EVERYTHING WAS PROCEEDING ACCORDING TO PLAN.

DOGAAN (B-BOOM)

BUT...

.....MY MEMORY CUTS OFF HERE.

MY MEM-ORIES OF THE NEXT FEW HOURS ...

...WERE SWALLOWED UP BY DARKNESS AND DISAP-PEARED.

KYOU.

.....MIYABI.....

.....

MIYABI.....

DON'T GO...

.....WHERE AM I?

AL...

...AND LISTEN CLOSELY.

KEEP YOUR WITS ABOUT YOU...

REMAIN CALM, MABUCHI...

!?

GASP!

THE WAR IS OVER.

WE WON.

...BUT THE OPERATION... THE ONLY PEOPLE TO SURVIVE.....

...!!?

IT'S ONLY THE TWO OF US LEFT NOW.

...WERE YOU AND I.

IT WAS AN HONOR TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE OUR COMRADES.

WE WERE A TEAM FOR THREE YEARS...

A...AL... WHAT ARE YOU...?

ALSO, MABUCHI ...

YOU HAVE VISITORS.

THAT FACT WILL NEVER CHANGE.

REGARDLESS OF THE OFFICIAL STORY.....WE, GRENDEL, HAD A HAND IN PROTECTING THIS WORLD.

!?

I SHOULD TAKE MY LEAVE...

...DR. SEIRA ...!?

...AND...

TSUBAKI ...

.....NO.

...MA...

.....
KYOU...

HUFF

HUFF

BAN
BAM

...COME
ON...

MIYABI...

MI...

MIYABI...

HER HEAD AND.....PART OF HER SPINE... THERE WAS AN UNPREDICTABLE ACCIDENT WITH THE COIL...WE LOST THEM...

...BUT...

.....HER BODY FROM THE NECK DOWN... WE MOVED IT TO A SEPARATE AREA FOR SAFEKEEPING BEFORE THE OPERATION.

I... WHAT HAVE I.....

PETA (WHUMP)

I'M SORRY...

GH...

ギュウウウ

I...

I...

AAAA

ON THIS DAY, I LEARNED THAT I'D LOST EVERYTHING IMPORTANT TO ME TO OUT-OF-CONTROL COILS.

I'M DRIFT-ING AIM-LESSLY ...

...EVER SINCE, EVEN TODAY...

TOMBSTONE: AZUMAYA FAMILY GRAVE

...LIVING AN EMPTY LIFE.

MIYABI
.....

YET YOU STILL HAVEN'T THROWN ME AWAY.

...I'M A PIECE OF TRASH...

DID YOU FINALLY DECIDE TO FORGIVE YOURSELF?

.....
TSUBAKI?

KYOUMA.

I STILL DON'T ACCEPT IT.

I JUST...

...NOPE.

I STILL AIN'T FORGIVEN MYSELF.

WON'T YOU STAND A LITTLE CLOSER? FOR HER?

I DON'T WANT TO BE FORGIVEN NEITHER.

I CAN'T WRAP MY HEAD AROUND ANY OF IT.

THE DEATHS OF MY COMRADES ...

MIYABI'S DEATH...

TEXT: AZUMAYA FAMILY GRAVE

KYOU-MA...

THAT'S WHY I CAN'T STAND IN FRONT OF HER GRAVE.

...THAT'S REALLY WHERE IT'LL ALL END.

IF I ACCEPT IT ALL WITHOUT ACTUALLY UNDER-STANDING A THING...

I'M GOING TO EASTER ISLAND.

KYOU-MA?

I'VE MADE UP MY MIND.

...AND THANKS TO THAT, I NEVER HAD TO CONFRONT IT...

UNTIL NOW, I NEVER HAD A WAY TO INVES-TIGATE THE WHOLE THING ...

...EVERY-THING I LOST.

AND WHEN I GET THERE, I'M GONNA FACE...

YOU'RE A LUCKY GIRL...

...MIYABI.

...HONEST-LY.

.....

TOMBSTONE: AZUMAYA FAMILY GRAVE

BOBOBO (SPUTTER)

MR. KYOUMA! YOU'RE BACK!

OH!

EH?

NOT THAT ONE.

GACHA

I'M READY!

GACHA (KACHAK)

GET IN THE CAR, BUCKET OF BOLTS. WE'RE GOIN'.

BA (WHAP)

TODAY, WE'RE TAKING THIS BABY.

DIMENSION W 5 END

APPENDIX.01
TRANSLATION NOTES

PAGE 36

***Nippon*:** An older way of referring to the country of Japan in the Japanese language. The more common term is *Nihon*.

PAGE 85

***Obon*:** A holiday honoring the spirits of one's ancestors, during which people visit and clean their ancestors' graves. One Obon tradition is to float paper lanterns down a river on the last day of the festival, to guide the spirits of the dead back to the afterlife.

PAGE 151

***El Rosal*:** Spanish for "the rosebush."

INTRODUCTION TO DIMENSION W

W の罪

CHAPTER 5

No. 5: "Military Coils"

It's me, Rose...

...A.I. version 5.05.

In this swimwear edition, I'll be introducing these *"military Coils."*

Why swimwear, you ask?

Well, I'm participating in a military exhibition currently being put on in Hawaii.

Military Coils are special units with reinforced shells and sockets which allow output to be increased by 40%.

In accordance with the international treaty regulating military use of Coils, only nations that have signed the treaty may obtain and use them.

Private citizens are required to obtain approval from both their nation and New Tesla Energy if they wish to use a military Coil.

Indeed, one would have to have connections in high places.

HUNH?

So long as everything remains within the bounds of the treaty, New Tesla Energy will not intervene, no matter how the Coil is being used.

Naturally, this includes lethal violence.

SUSPI-CIOUS PERSON

However, please be advised that extreme uses may result in conflict among nations.

Good-bye.

TO BE CONTINUED

Dimension W

by YUJI IWAHARA

Translation: Amanda Haley • Lettering: Phil Christie

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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